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WEEKLY

Next week 9 pages of British soccer



World Cup 1994 draw



THE qualifying draw for the 1994 World Cup will be held on December 8 at Madison Square Garden's Forum in New York.

This will be the first time the draw will be held outside FIFA's headquarters in Switzerland.

The draw to begin at noon will include entertainment, soccer highlights and live coverage of the draw itself, a procedure which will divide the 120 nations expected to enter the World Cup into continental qualifying groups.

"This will be another milestone on the road to 1994," said Charles G. Cale, chief executive officer of World Cup '94.

Beginning next year and for the next 18 months the 120 nations will compete in an elimination series which will include as many as 300 games.

The field will be reduced to 22 nations which will join the United States (host) and Germany (defending champion) at the 1994 finals.

The present format will include 13 teams from Europe (including Germany), three from Africa, two from Asia, three from South America and two from North, Central and Caribbean America (including the United States).

The 24th team will come from an inter-continental playoff structure involving Oceania, South America and CONCACAF.

Australia will participate in this group.

A NEW OLYMPIC STAR



MARK BOSNICH

Bosnich is in the squad

BY TOM ANDERSON

BRILLIANT Young Socceroo goalkeeper Mark Bosnich has gained instant promotion on his return home following his deportation from England.

Bosnich has been included in Australia's Olympic Games squad to travel to Europe next month to play a series of warm-up matches.

This was disclosed by Socceroo supremo Eddie Thomson before he left at the weekend to join the Joey contingent to contest the Under-17 World Championship.

This will be the first step in the quest by Bosnich to win the senior Socceroo goalkeeping position.

His promotion will help douse the disappointment of having to leave England and Manchester United.

The youngster is also expected to rejoin Sydney Croatia later this week.

"Mark has earned his spot in the Olympic squad after his displays in Portugal and it will be an interesting head-on battle between him and John Filan for the number one Olympic goalkeeping spot," Thomson said.

"I'm looking forward to the contest and it's a lovely situation to be in, having two such talented custodians."

Since his return home, Bosnich has not let the grass grow beneath his feet.

He has trained every day and is in marvellous shape.

He is looking forward to his promotion to the Olympic squad and the challenge that goes with it.

The kid from Sydney is rated the finest goalkeeper in the world at his age.

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THE new English football season will blast-off again at the weekend, bigger and better than ever.

And ABSW will be there with it every inch of the way, to bring you all the news, from both on and off the field as only we can.

This season will be the 128th year of the English Football Association, the pioneer of world football.

It all started on October 26, 1863, in the Freemasons' Tavern on Great Queen Street in London.

Club officials, team captains and representatives of some public schools met to found the association which at that

time turned England into the cradle of football.

The vision and commitment of those pioneers has made football what it is today — the world's leading sport.

In the 1840s, football in England began to make its way from the privileged school and university circles, into towns and villages and the very first club was founded.

This opened the door for football to become the game of the people.

Over the years, English football has had its share of tragedies.

None worse than the Hillsborough and Heysel Stadium disasters.

Despite those two tragedies, the game in England has fought back in fine style.

Indeed, the spirit of the code that was so close to the hearts of the founding fathers has triumphed in spite of the odds.

Last season Manchester United won the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

This coming season in England will once again be one that will cause ripples of excitement throughout the world as the spirit of the game is revived.

THE EDITOR

Melita in hunt for Wheatley

BY TOM ANDERSON

AMBITIOUS NSL outfit Melita Eagles are chasing Marconi defender Robbie Wheatley.

Eagles are anxious to snare Wheatley to replace their now retired libero Washington Gonzalez.

This has been disclosed by leading Melita official Sam Vella.

"It is no secret that Robbie seems disgruntled by his present lot at Marconi and is on the lookout for a new club," he said.

"We have had preliminary talks with him, but nothing official and as yet nothing has come

to fruition.

"We would like him to join us, as I'm sure he would fit into our setup and further his career with our club.

"We expect developments to continue on this line this week."

However, Melita has made it perfectly clear that they will stay within their budget in all transfer negotiations.

Their ace transfer listed striker Greg Brown is still overseas and no further developments have taken place on his possible transfer from the club.

"We still have hopes of retaining Greg," Vella disclosed.

"However, it would have to be on our terms.

"It's as simple as that."

★ Meanwhile, Sydney Croatia has appointed ace striker Tony Krslovic as their development officer.

This is a wise choice as the elegant young striker seems perfectly

suited for this task.

Croatia has also signed two experienced midfielders from overseas.

They are former international Fadali Murić 31, and Miro Stipić 28, who were teammates at Rijeka last season.

★ Sydney Olympic

has lost its reserve team coach Geoff Harcombe, who has retired from duty because of business commitments.

Club coach Mick Hickman will carry on without a replacement for the time being.

Olympic still has big hopes of signing Marconi midfielder Peter Kat-

holos.

Katholos has had extensive talks with the Olympic committee and would like to join them.

Olympic's Canberra based striker Marko Perinovic has been loaned out to Hong Kong outfit Happy Valley.

This now means that he will not be seen in

Olympic's colours this coming season.

However, Kiwi international goalkeeper Clint Gosling has agreed to new terms and will remain with the club.

Olympic will kick-off the new NSL season with their first game against NSL Cup holders Melita.

Aussie Vieri is tops for Torino

BY LOU GAUTIER

AUSTRALIAN-born Christian Vieri has been included in this season's Torino first team squad.

The 18-year-old Vieri is the son of Roberto Vieri, the former Marconi star, now back coaching juniors at Prato.

Vieri senior played as a professional for Sampdoria, Juventus, Roma and Bologna, and son Christian is following in his dad's footsteps.

Young Christian was rated one of top juniors in Italy last season by the mass-circulation sports daily, "Gazzetta dello Sport".

"Pupi-Gol" as his



CHRISTIAN VIERI

team-mates have nicknamed him, has scored three goals in Torino's starting line-up since the club started its pre-season training.

Vieri has been standing in for Torino's new

multi-million dollar Brazilian signing, Casagrande, who has been sidelined with the 'flu.

Vieri has told the Italian press that he owes his soccer development to Marconi and to his father's coaching in Australia.

Christian went to Italy in 1988, leaving his parents and two brothers back in Australia.

The entire family rejoined him late last year and Christian is now well on the road to a successful professional career in Italy.

National Youth coach Les Scheinflug will attempt to induce Vieri to appear for Australia in the 1993 World Youth Cup finals.

Scheinflug will meet him in Italy this week, during the under-17 World Championships.



Robbie Wheatley

Ollie back

SOCCEROO striker Scott Ollerenshaw will play one more game for Nelson United before returning to Sydney later this month.

The 23-year-old former Australian international has been ordered back home early by his Sydney Olympic coach Mick Hickman to start pre-season training.

Ollerenshaw had ho-

ped he would be available to Nelson for four more games before returning to Sydney on September 2.

But he will now be in the Nelson lineup for Sydney's clash with North Shore.

"My coach rang up the other day and wanted me back almost straight away," Ollerenshaw said.

"I managed to convince him to let me stay for one more game."

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EDITOR: Tom Anderson
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Lou Gautier
MELBOURNE EDITOR: Greg Blake
PRODUCTION MANAGER: Maurizio Pagnin
CADET: Sally Chant

ADVERTISING:
Sydney: John Economos (02) 660 2033
Melbourne: Greg Blake (03) 663 4411.
VICTORIAN OFFICE: 2nd Floor, 276 Russell St, Melbourne 3000.

Telephone: (03) 663 4411
FAX: (03) 663 1204

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Marconi on target for honours as big signing spree continues

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

DESPITE the dramatic events which took place at Bossley Park during the off season, NSL glamour club Marconi Fairfield is well on the way towards sorting out its problems and is now hell bent on staging an all-out assault to regain the championship.

An unexpected bonus for Marconi could be the return of former Socceroo defender Gary Van Egmond from Belgium who is set to rejoin the club after a season with Roda JC.

Van Egmond has made it clear to Marconi officials that his future lies in Australia and negotiations have already begun for him to rejoin the squad.

This surprise development should reinforce the former champions' determined attempts to get the show back on the road after the alarming happenings since the end of last season.

Following a slump which saw the title favourites obtain just one victory in their last ten matches, a strong attempt was made by a faction within the club's soccer committee to replace coach Beri Mariani.

A compromise was soon reached, however, which left Mariani in control for a fifth successive season and new manager Ken Hastie appointed to take over all administrative duties.

This new structure was seen as somewhat surprising in some quarters as Mariani is widely regarded as a highly talented administrator but the workload was simply becoming much too great.

Mariani is now able to devote all his energies towards getting his team thoroughly prepared for the challenge of the new season ahead.

Early reports indicating a large number of defections from Bossley Park have proved to be unfounded. Certainly the departure of superbly talented Paul Okon to Belgium is a heavy loss not only for Marconi but also to Australian soccer, nevertheless, his overseas move was by no means unexpected.

At this stage, the only player who is definitely leaving is defender Mick Jones, who has been transfer listed at \$35,000.

Hastie concedes, however, that the futures of long serving defender Robbie Wheatley and classy midfielder Peter Katholos are very much in the air.

"They both indicated that a move could be in their best interest", he admitted, "we don't really want to lose either of them but we gave them the go ahead to speak to any other interest parties."

"So far there has been no direct negotiations with anyone although we understand that Sydney Olympic is showing a lot of interest in Katholos," Hastie said.

The possible loss of these players will be a major blow for the former champions. Katholos was at his creative best last season but a number of run inside with Mariani may have proved unsettling.

Wheatley took over the sweeper's role from Okon towards the latter part of the year — a position which he's possibly best suited for and with Okon's departure, Marconi would have a ready-made, seasoned replacement to fill the gap.

There has also been speculation that left side defender Jean-Paul de Marigny was on the way out but Hastie strongly denies the rumours. "He has not been placed on the transfer list and we have no intention of doing so," he said. "De Marigny has been given permission to guest with Brisbane City but that's as far as it goes. As far as we're concerned, Jean Paul will be staying with us."

Reports that giant goalkeeper Bob Catlin and Socceroo striker David Lowe were on the move also proved to be totally unfounded. They signed new contracts with the club just last week.

"Marconi had a squad of fifteen players after Zlatko Nasteovski was sold to Wollongong Macedonia last season," Hastie explained, "and it will be increased to sixteen again this year. We have definitely lost Okon and transfer listed Jones but the signing of Milan Blagojevic from Apia and Gus Cerro from Melita has enabled us to replace them."

Therefore, we are still in the market for another player to give us the sixteen-man squad we want. We are currently negotiating with a Sydney-based player and are close to clinching the deal, an



Ian Gray: Key Marconi player for new season.

announcement can be expected anytime."

Hastie was quite open about the fact that Marconi had been more than a little interested in getting the services of the immensely talented Ned Zelic from Sydney Croatia, "but not at the \$46,000 fixed by the appeals tribunal," he said. "I understand that Croatia also expects a percentage from any possible future transfer. At that rate, Zelic is virtually being priced out of the market."

Providing Wheatley and Katholos can fix up their differences with the club, Marconi will not have the new look team that everyone had been expecting. In fact, Mariani will possibly have an even stronger squad at his disposal.

Blagojevic has shown in his Socceroo appearances that he is a class player who will contribute greatly to the championship challenge while Gus Cerro is an exciting midfielder who can add a great deal of flair to the side.

Should either Katholos or Wheatley decide to move elsewhere, however, Marconi's not short of funds to obtain adequate replacements thanks to the record \$300,000 transfer fee received from the sale of Okon.

The much admired professional set-up which exists at Bossley Park is a tremendous attraction to most players. "Everybody wants to play for Marconi," Hastie says. "So we're not in a bad position."

Not bad indeed, while success can often bring its own problems with it and no matter what difficulties Marconi may at times experience, it's little wonder that most soccer pundits expect a finely tuned green machine to smoothly roll on to another mighty championship challenge in 1992.

★ Marconi President Tony Labbozzetta intends to open new relationships with leading clubs in Italy during his present visit there on ASF business.

Not for City

Socceroo midfielder Branko Milosevic has abandoned his bid to join Adelaide City.

Milosevic has signed with Melbourne Croatia for another two seasons after resolving financial differences with the club.

However, the move could block Croatia's bid to lure Socceroo sweeper Ned Zelic to the club from Sydney Croatia as they stood to gain between \$50,000 and \$75,000 from Adelaide City for Milosevic's proposed move.

Melbourne Croatia president Steve Mandekic said Adelaide City made Milosevic an attractive offer but in the end he decided it was better to remain with his original club.

"Initially Branko felt he wanted a change



BRANKO MILOSEVIC

from the club," Mandekic said.

"However, once we overcame the financial hurdle we were able to convince him he would be better off remaining with the club."

Milosevic, who had declared he would not return to Melbourne Croatia, signed the contract in Melbourne last week and returned to Perth where he is "guesting" for North

Perth Croatia during the winter.

Milosevic, 26, will return to Melbourne in a fortnight to start training, while the club hopes to have named a coach and resolved the situation with Zelic by next week.

Mandekic said the club was likely to appoint a coach to replace Ken Worden, now coaching in Malaysia, next week.

The island of flowers is a real power MADEIRA'S

PORTUGAL, the country which held the Sixth World Youth Championship for the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup, owes its international football stature mainly to the laurels of its famous clubs, Benfica Lisbon, Sporting Lisbon and Porto.

In 1961 and 1962 Benfica won the European Champion Clubs' Cup. Porto followed suit in 1987 and at the same time carried off the Toyota Cup. Like Benfica, Sporting's greatest success at European level is way back in the past: in 1964 they won the European Cup Winners' Cup.

In the sixties the national team greatly benefited from the successes of Benfica and Sporting. Led by Eusebio they came third in the 1966 World Cup in England and it was the very first time that they had taken part in a World Championship.

In their national championships, played since 1934, the three big names virtually hold a monopoly on the title: in the last 56 years the trophy has ended up in the showcase of one of these clubs no fewer than 55 times.

Only one club managed to briefly break its way through this total predominance. This was Belenenses who seized the title in 1946 and incidentally were also from Lisbon.

Since the beginning of the 1990/91 season, however, the number of Portugal's football strongholds has grown from two to three. Funchal, the capital of Madeira has now caught up on Lisbon

and Porto and proudly takes its place in the first division with three teams: Maritimo, Nacional and Uniao.

Madeira is an Atlantic island in the Azores, 550km from the African coast on the same latitude as Casablanca. With a surface of 740 sq km and 300,000 inhabitants (a third of whom live in Funchal) Madeira is the largest and most heavily populated of the five-island archipelago formed by a volcanic eruption in the Tertiary era.

Its turbulent creation is ubiquitously in evidence: the centre of the island is typified by high mountains and deep ravines, whereas the coastline is traced with



The Dos Barreiros Stadium in Funchal, the capital of Madeira

solidified streams of lava cutting into the steep cliffs falling sharply into the sea.

Due to the mild climate — the temperature rarely sinks under 15°C in the winter — the island is virtually a swimming garden replete with an abundance of exotic flora and fruit, such as bougainvillea, jacaranda and almond trees, paradise flowers (strelitzia), marakujas, papayas and avocados.

Incidentally the name Funchal is a clear indication of Madeira's luxuriant flora. Funchal is derived from the word "funcho" meaning fennel, a yellow-flowered umbelliferous herb whose all-pervasive perfume enraptured Madeira's early colonists. There is some argument as to who officially discovered the archipelago.

Historians claim that a Portuguese called João Gonçalves Zarco dropped anchor there in 1419 and in the name of Henry the Navigator staked a claim on it for the Portuguese crown.

According to legend, however, it was discovered by an English

adventurer called Robert Machim. Machim and his sweetheart were supposedly shipwrecked off the coast in 1346.

The village of Machico on the southeastern coast — whose club plays in the third division — is named in memory of the stranded lovers. Madeira's other claim to fame is the fact that it was once the domicile of an illustrious personality.

In 1470 Christopher Columbus married the governor's daughter and lived for some time in Funchal.

Madeira's political status is a self-governing community (similar to the Faroes within the kingdom of Denmark) in which the population is permitted to set up its own regional parliament.

This assembly then elects its own regional president. The presi-

dent subsequently forms a cabinet of secretaries who, as in any classical administration, function as regional ministers in the various spheres of local government.

Portugal is itself represented in Madeira by a ministerial delegate who is nominated directly by the President of the Portuguese Republic.

The president of the regional government,

Alberto João Jardim, plays a significant role in Madeira's football life. Practically ninety per cent of the resources of Maritimo, Nacional and Uniao are funded by public subsidies.

The Island's taxpayers are correspondingly called upon to pay up and President Jardim had no other alternative but to start talks with club representatives to look into the possibilities of an



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Madeira's three major clubs. An artistically intricate lion in Maritimo's club emblem (l) contrasts sharply with the simplicity of Uniao's emblem (r). The nameplate of Nacional's offices attests to the fact that the club "serves the public".

Three clubs in Portugal's 1st Div BLOSSOM

amalgamation of the three clubs.

The aim is to form a powerful club which could represent Madeira in Portuguese professional football with the added potential of being strong enough to conquer a coveted place in European competitions. Such a union however seems pretty unlikely for all three of these clubs have their own longstanding tradition which has taken shape over the span of almost eighty long years of their existence.

What is more, their rivalry is for one part based on their different political philosophies.

Martimo, founded in September 1910, is the oldest of the three clubs as well as the most successful. In 1925/26, is almost "prehistoric" times, Maritimo were champions for the first and so far only time.

In more recent times, i.e. 1976/77 and 1981/82 they climbed to the top of the second division and consequently won promotion into the first.

Maritimo have never looked back since and in 1984/85 they achieved their best ever result by coming fifth. Club manager is at present the Brazilian Paolo Autuori. Like most of his counterparts in the other top Portuguese clubs he has a whole row of Brazilian players at his disposal.

The foreign contingent is completed by the Barbados striker Peter Hinds. Maritimo is also backed by the greatest number of supporters and loyal spectators.

Approximately 10,000 fans are registered as "socios" and at every home match — with the players dressed in red and green, the colours of the Portuguese Republic — there is an average crowd of 11,000.

Black and white, the colours of the monarchy and aristocracy, are those of the other club that also has a longstanding tradition to look back on. Nacional was also founded in 1910, albeit is Nelio Menonca, President of Madeira's regional assembly.

The post of manager is once again occupied by a Brazilian, Jair Picerni. Nacional only made it into the top division the season before last, winning 14th place in last year's championships.



Nacional's goalkeeper Gilmar — no relation to his legendary Brazilian namesake.

Several of the club's mainstays are also of Brazilian origin.

Goalkeeper Gilmar (no relation to the Gilmar in the Brazilian team which won the World Championship in 1958 and 1962), defended from the front by the backs Heitor and Toninho, with Roberinho and Edmilson forming the attack along with te Nigerian Sylvanus.

Nacional caused a sensation in the 1991/92 championship by beating the titleholder Porto 2-1 on the opponent's home ground.

Approximately 6,000 spectators regularly attend Nacional's home matches and the club boasts over 5,000 members.

The third club in the row is Uniao, founded in 1913. Champions in the 2nd division in 1988/89, Uniao stood on tenterhooks right up to the very last minute before they knew if they had retained their division position or not.

They were only just saved from relegation by winning a decisive play-off round which had become necessary owing to some disciplinary

problems encountered by the Famalicao club.

Uniao differs from their local rivals and other clubs inasmuch as their manager, Rui Mancio, is a Portuguese, and due also to the fact that they have three Yugoslavs in the first eleven (Markovic, Lepi and Dragan). The team captain Nelinho is a Funchal citizen.

Maritimo, Nacional and Uniao all play their home games in the Dos Barreiros Stadium in the town centre which has a capacity for 15,000. If two of these three clubs have home fixtures at the same weekend, then one of them plays on Saturday and the other on Sunday. Rivalry obviously has its price.

JOEYS

Australia's under-17 Joeys came from behind to beat their German counterparts 2-0 last week.

Then in their final warm-up match, they beat Go Ahead Eagles of Deventer, in Holland, 5-2.

Bids by 24 US cities

TWENTY-FOUR American communities, bidding for the right to serve as hosts for the 1994 World Cup and other events of the series, recently took another major step in the venue selection process when they delivered oral presentations in Los Angeles.

World Cup USA 1994 will recommend venues to FIFA in a few weeks' time.

A final list of host communities will be announced in early December.

The various delegations included two governors, two lieutenant governors, eight mayors, and 16 city, state and county officials who accompanied their local bid committees to the Century Plaza Hotel where a 12-member panel heard the proceedings.

"The quality of the presentations was outstanding," said Charles G. Cale, chief-executive officer of World Cup USA 1994.

Bid committees had 40 minutes with the panel.

The initial 20-minute segment included a description of financial support from local governments and the private sector, as well as a demonstration of soccer roots in the community.

The second half was devoted to questions from the panel.

"During the process, we were able to ask many questions which clarified certain issues, and each community demonstrated it is a worthy candidate," said Cale.

On the lighter side, the Los Angeles group brought six members of the USC marching band and Mickey Mouse, while Boston-Foxboro arrived with a two-pound lobster.

Competing events at proposed stadiums, playing surfaces, the removal of advertising signs, and renovations at stadiums make the selection an involved one.

Also, some bid committees have to contend with growing grass inside domed stadiums.

But Ross Berlin, senior vice-president-venues, is optimistic about the committees' responses to these potential problems.

"They've got to find a way to make their stadiums available and they're being creative," he said.

New York and New Jersey did not make oral presentations but planned separate meetings with World Cup '94 representatives.

Las Vegas, bidding for the final draw, and other cities interested in this ceremony, will make their presentations at a later date.

The committees bid for some of the 52 games which may be played in as many as 12 locations.

There will be 36 round-robin games, played in six groups of four teams each.

Eight games in the first round of 16; four in the quarter finals; two in the semi-finals; one third-place game and the final to determine the 1994 champion.



Commemorative coin

THE United States congress is considering legislation to allow the US mint to strike a commemorative coin honouring the 1994 World Cup series.

Representative Esteban Torres of California, chairman of the house subcommittee on consumer affairs and coinage, has been the architect of this exciting project on which a hearing was held on July 17.

Pele, the Brazilian star and former New York Cosmos in the North American Soccer League, testified with chairman Alan Rothenberg, Charles Cale and representative Torres in support of the legislation which needs the approval of 218 members of congress before it goes to President Bush for his signature.

230 congressmen sponsored the bill.

The World Cup organising committee is supporting the bill which authorises the US mint to issue a five dollar gold coin, a one dollar silver coin and a half dollar clad coin to be sold to the public by January 3, 1994 as a commemorative souvenir.

Details on how to purchase the coins from World Cup USA will be announced later.

The World Cup organisation is issuing a commemorative stamp as well.

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Look out in future ads for stockists in other areas.

TORWARTHANDSCHUHE

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SUNSHINE George Cross have let coach Tony Vrzina go.

Bill Murray is George's new coach.

He met last week with players and committee members to discuss the future of the EXSL club.

Vrzina, who joined George Cross late last season after parting with Sydney Croatia in bizarre circumstances, says the decision surprised him.

"I had been told by the top brass at the club that they not only wanted me to keep on coaching, but also take a more active role in executive decision-making," he said.

A disappointed Vrzina claimed he had been working sponsorship deals for the club.

Sunshine, incidentally, are planning a four-game tour of Malta next year.

ACT Soccer Federation president Ron Watkins is never short of an idea. The latest suggestion he is floating is a change in the name of the Federation to "Soccer ACT" — a shorter, snappy title more in keeping with the spirit of the Neame report, he believes.

Efforts to expand the ACT's representative program continue, with New Zealand provincial teams and leading club sides the latest area to be investigated.

Doug Marcina was named Metro's Players' Player of the Match against Rockdale Ilinden. David Milin won the youth team's award.

Jamie Crocker, who has done tremendous work over the years as strapper to numerous Australian Institute of Sport and ACT representative teams, is recovering from a back operation.

Crocker suffered some pain during the AIS's recent South American tour and it is hoped the operation will aid his return to full health.

— GRAHAM COOKE

Under knife

ALAN Davidson has undergone a minor hip operation and also surgery on his right knee last week.

The knee operation removed floating pieces of bone while the hip surgery was to remove an infection.

The former Soccerroo, who has now retired permanently from international football, was to have had the surgery last month, but postponed it after a specialist also found something wrong with his knee.

Davidson is confident he will be fit to start the 1991-92 NSL season in October with Melbourne Croatia.

The swollen knee had hampered "David's" form in the latter stages of last season.



FORMER Soccerroo and Sydney City star Joe Watson is about to hang up his boots and call it a day in the playing arena.

Watson, still active with Waverley in the

NSW second division with Waverley has plans to enter the world of coaching next season.

The former Dundee United and Nottingham Forest pro came to Australia in 1973 to join Sydney City —

then Hakoah, where he played for 14 years.

He also had a successful year as player-coach with the Kingsford club.

Now 39, Joe represented Australia 40 times.

He was NSL Player of the Year in 1983 and

took out the NSW honor in 1982.

A fully qualified coach, Watson has a great deal to offer Australian soccer in the coaching arena.

Joe can be contacted on 661 9312 (H) or 018-441 069 (B).

— JOE MARTIN



Sponsorship a major success

BY GREG BLAKE

DIABETES Australia, one of the Victorian Soccer Federation's three major sponsors in 1991, has given the thumbs up to the soccer fraternity.

Diabetes Australia Health Promotions and Projects manager, Chris Tice, has declared her association with the VSF a success.

And Tice is hoping to continue the association into 1992, the third of a three year sponsorship deal struck between the VSF and the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation.

Tice says Diabetes' involvement with soc-

cer has been "very successful".

"I want to maintain that involvement next year, and my reports to Vic Health have reflected that", she told ABSW.

VSF officials have been delighted with the VHPF sponsorship, and have been impressed with the promotional efforts of Tice in 1991.

VSF executive director George Wallace says the association has been "good for the game".

"The sponsorship is very important to the federation", Wallace said.

"But it has also helped give the federation a greater awareness in

the area of Diabetes.

"It's alright to have Vic Health, but to be definitive, be it diabetes, arthritis or whatever, helps us to get new insight".

Wallace himself suffers from diabetes.

Tice says the most fulfilling part of her role has been the involvement in the recent Diabetes Super Soccer Clinics.

"That was a real buzz for me personally", she explained.

"It was terrific — the reaction of the kids was marvellous.

"That has been the highlight for me".

The VSF's other major sponsors in 1991 are Mitre Sports and Australian Airlines.

Frankie is on the goal hunt

FRANK Farina continues to impress — and to score goals — in trial matches with his new club, Bari.

His latest feat was a brace against a Swedish Third Division side last week.

Bari won that game 5-1, but only after Farina came in as a half-time replacement for Parente against Torreboda, who just missed promotion to the Swedish Second Division last season.

With the Aussie on the field, Bari converted a 0-1 deficit into an effortless win, with Farina scoring in the

55th and 81st minutes.

Farina has been training like a house on fire during Bari's pre-season camp in Sweden and his display against Torreboda drew rave notices from the hard-to-please Italian soccer scribes.

They were particularly impressed with one of his goals — a great header which has earned him the nickname of "Flying Kangaroo".

Bari's newest signing, English midfielder David Platt, was in Sweden but did not play in that particular game.

Bari's opening league match is on September 1 against Torino.

But their first official game of the season is against Empoli, in the first round of the Italian Cup, on August 25.

— LOU GAUTIER

The new indoor champs

THE East Sydney Commodores are the new Indoor James Hardie Australian Champions.

Commodores downed Melbourne Buffalos 8-6 at Homebush Stadium to take out the title.

Defending champions West Sydney Swans were downed in the semi-final by the Commodores.

In the other semi, Melbourne beat Canberra.



TESTIMONIAL

TICKETS to a testimonial dinner for Victorian coach Fred Bunce, who is seriously ill, are available at \$40 from former Wilhelmia star Willie Coulson on 726 0921.

The testimonial will be at the Ringwood RSL in Melbourne on Friday/August 23.

The Offside Club will have a "roast" for retiring Victorian Soccer Federation executive director George Wallace on Friday September 6.

NO DANNY 'BUY'

ALL White Danny Halligan is not moving to Brisbane Lions.

Halligan said he has had talks about playing overseas, but is happy at Christchurch United.

Halligan is rated one of the better New Zealand internationals.

SOCCER POOLS



THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 316
SAT. 17TH AUGUST, 1991

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	Q.P.R.	1
	CHELSEA	WIMBLEDON	2
	COVENTRY	MAN. CITY	3
	CRYSTAL P.	LEEDS	4
	LIVERPOOL	OLDHAM	5
	MAN. UTD.	NOTTS C.	6
	NORWICH	SHEFFIELD UTD.	7
	NOTTINGHAM F.	EVERTON	8
	SHEFF. WED.	ASTON VILLA	9
	SOUTHAMPTON	TOTTENHAM	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	WEST HAM	LUTON	11
	BLACKBURN	PORTSMOUTH	12
	BRIGHTON	TRANMERE	13
	BRISTOL R.	IPSWICH	14
	CHARLTON	NEWCASTLE	15
	GRIMSBY	CAMBRIDGE U.	16
	MIDDLESBRO	MILLWALL	17
	PLYMOUTH	BARNLEY	18
	PORT VALE	OXFORD UTD.	19
	SOUTHEND	BRISTOL C.	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	SUNDERLAND	DERBY	21
	SWINDON	LEICESTER	22
	WATFORD	WOLVES	23
	BIRMINGHAM	BURY	24
	BOLTON	HUDDERSFIELD	25
	BOURNEMOUTH	DARLINGTON	26
	BRADFORD C.	STOKE	27
	BRENTFORD	LEYTON Q.	28
	CHESTER	PULHAM	29
	PETERBORO	PRESTON	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	READING	HULL	31
	SHREWSBURY	WOLAN A.	32
	STOCKPORT	SWANSEA	33
	TORQUAY	HARTLEPOOL	34
	WEST BROM.	EXETER	35
	BARNET	CREWE	36
	BLACKPOOL	WALSALL	37
	CARDIFF	LINCOLN	38
	RESERVE MATCHES		
	CHESTERFIELD	MAIDSTONE	39
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION	DONCASTER	CARLISLE	40
	GILLINGHAM	SCUNTHORPE	41
	HALIFAX	NORTHAMPTON	42
	ROCHDALE	YORK	43
	ROTHERHAM	BURNLEY	44
	SCARBORO	MANCHESTER	45
	WREXHAM	HEREFORD	46
	ABERDEEN	DUNFERMLINE	47
	CELTIC	FALKIRK	48
	HEARTS	RANGERS	49
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION	MOTHERWELL	HIBERNIAN	50
	S. JOHNSTONE	DUNDEE U.	51
	ST. MIRREN	ABERDIE	52
	AYR	CLYDEBANK	53
	DUNDEE	MEADOWBANK	54
	HAMILTON	MORTON	55
	RESERVE MATCHES		
	CHESTERFIELD	MAIDSTONE	39
	DONCASTER	CARLISLE	40
	GILLINGHAM	SCUNTHORPE	41
	HALIFAX	NORTHAMPTON	42
	ROCHDALE	YORK	43
	ROTHERHAM	BURNLEY	44
	SCARBORO	MANCHESTER	45
	WREXHAM	HEREFORD	46
	ABERDEEN	DUNFERMLINE	47
	CELTIC	FALKIRK	48
	HEARTS	RANGERS	49
	MOTHERWELL	HIBERNIAN	50
	S. JOHNSTONE	DUNDEE U.	51
	ST. MIRREN	ABERDIE	52
	AYR	CLYDEBANK	53
	DUNDEE	MEADOWBANK	54
	HAMILTON	MORTON	55

* Winning match numbers and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

Get your Pools in!

It takes only six numbers to win.

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 315
SAT. 10th AUGUST, 1991

VIC. STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 2	KNOX CITY	ESSENDON C.	1	2-1
	PT. MELBOURNE	WESTGATE	2	1-2
	S.H. POLONIA	CLIFTON HILL	3	2-1
	DONCASTER	SANDRINGHAM	4	2-0
	KEILOR	DANDENONG	5	1-1
	GEELONG	CHELSEA	6	2-1
	NUNAWADING	BR'MEADOWS	7	3-3
	RICHMOND	ALTONA CITY	8	0-1
	BENTLEIGH	BRIGHTON	9	2-2*
	SUNBURY UTD.	WAVERLEY	10	0-1
VIC. STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 3	FITZROY CITY	SEAFOUR D.	11	P/P
	ELTHAM UTD.	SPRINGVALE U.	12	2-1
	OAKLEIGH SUBS.	CORD UTD.	13	2-0
	MOORABBIN	CLAYTON	14	3-1
	LALOR UTD.	CLARINDA	15	2-0
	HEIDELBERG C.	EAST BRUNS. U.	16	0-5
	NORTH PERTH	ATHENA	17	0-3
	KELMSCOTT	KINGSWAY	18	1-5
	ROCKINGHAM	STIRLING MAC.	19	0-1
	SORRENTO	SPEARWOOD	20	2-1
WEST AUSTRALIA PREMIER LEAGUE	BALGA	MELVILLE	21	1-4
	BASSEDEAN	INGLEWOOD	22	2-0
	DIANELLA	GOSNELLS	23	1-1
	EAST PERTH	FERNDALDE U.	24	1-1
	FORRESTFIELD	WHITFORD C.	25	3-3*
	WANNEROO	OSBORNE PK.	26	3-1
	STIRLING T.P.	SWAN CRAC.	27	4-0
	LION GRANGE	HELLAS	28	0-5
	W.T. BIRKALLA	CROATIA	29	2-3
	ADELAIDE C.	POLONIA	30	2-2*
S.A. STATE LG. DIVISION 1	BEOGRAD	AZZURRI	31	2-0
	SALISBURY	MODBURY	32	1-1*
	BLACKWOOD	PARA HILLS	33	1-1*
	† DARRA UTD.	CAPALABA	34	6-3
QLD. DIV 4	OXLEY UTD.	KENMORE R.	35	1-2
	CLAIRVAUX	SAMFORD R.	36	3-3*
	UNIVERSITY	SOUTHSIDE	37	1-2
	TOOWONG	VIRGINIA UTD.	38	1-2



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 12/8/91 — WEEK 315

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
37	40	45	27	36	60	40	59	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
52	68	62	67	56	63	64	56	0	2	1	6	5	9	1	16	8			
63	52	51	62	61	65	64	60	3	6	3	9	8	7	2					
59	65	60	79	72	85	66	64	0	1	13	1	5	0	7	0				
66	74	68	81	67	66			0	12	3	0	2	2						

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 315 SAT 10 AUGUST, 1991

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
7, 9, 25, 30, 33, 36.
Supplementary Number: 32.

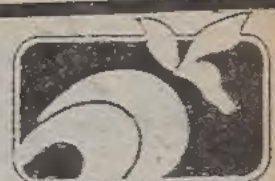
VIC SENIORS

STATE LEAGUE DIV ONE									
Knox City	23	15	5	3	59	18	35		
Springvale City	24	15	4	5	44	18	34		
North Geelong	22	14	5	3	52	15	33		
Caullfield City	23	9	7	28	30	25			
Frankston Pines	22	9	7	29	32	25			
Westgate	22	18	4	8	29	24			
Western Subs.	22	6	11	5	30	28			
Werribee	24	7	8	9	22	29			
Ringwood City	24	5	11	8	24	29			
Bell Park	22	7	5	10	24	31			
Essendon City	23	6	6	11	23	38			
Mordialloc	24	6	6	12	23	39			
Melbourne City	22	5	6	11	27	38			
Box Hill	23	6	4	13	20	45			
Port Melbourne	24	3	9	12	19	37			

STATE LEAGUE DIV ONE RESERVES									
Springvale City	22	12	5	5	51	26	29		
Melbourne City	20	12	4	4	43	21	28		
Bell Park	20	11	6	3	48	27	28		
Knox City	21	13	2	6	56	37	28		
Port Melbourne	23	11	6	6	43	34	28		
Caullfield City	21	11	4	6	37	29	26		
North Geelong	21	8	5	3	34	21	24		
R'wood City	21	9	5	7	32	24	23		
Werribee	23	9	4	10	25	32	22		
Box Hill	22	7	4	11	29	33	18		
Frankston Pines	22	6	4	12	38	57	16		
Western Subs.	21	6	3	12	28	46	15		
Essendon City	20	3	7	10	25	49	13		
Mordialloc	21	4	3	14	26	38	11		
Westgate	22	3	5	14	25	66	11		

STATE LEAGUE DIV TWO									
Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38		
Altona City	24	15	6	3	46	24	36		
Broadmeadows	25	11	8	6	40	31	30		
Doncaster Rovers	25	10	9	6	39	29	29		
Chelsoo	25	12	4	9	45	32	26		
Bentleigh Green	25	12	4	9	49	48	28		
Keilor	23	8	8	7	35	32	24		
Waverley City	25	10	3	12	39	42	22		
Clifton Hill	24	8	10	33	27	23			
Sunbury Utd.	24	8	10	26	29	22			
Sandringham	24	8	4	12	42	43	20		
Nunawading City	24	8	4	12	35	41	20		
Geelong	25	8	3	14	25	50	19		
Dandenong	25	4	9	12	32	42	17		
Irvington	25	5	7	13	24	38	17		
Suns. Heights	24	6	5	13	22	56	17		

Keilor.....	23	8	8	7	35	32	24
Waverley City.....	25	10	3	12	39	42	23
Clifton Hill.....	24	8	6	10	33	27	22
Sunbury Utd.....	24	8	6	10	26	29	22
Sandringham.....	24	8	4	12	42	43	20
Nunawading City.....	24	8	4	12	35	41	20
Geelong.....	25	8	3	14	25	50	19
Dandenong.....	25	4	9	12	32	42	17
Brighton.....	25	5	7	13	24	38	17



Blacktown get wise to offside tactics!

BLACKTOWN CITY 2
SYDNEY MACE 0

BLACKTOWN took a little while to get the better of the Sydney Macedonia offside game, employing similar tactics themselves at times, but ran out 2-0 winners with good second half goals.

Geoff Gunning was wide by a whisker in the 28th, one of the few chances in the first period, his shot on the turn coming after a good run and cross by Darren Northam.

Scott Gilbert was close to putting the visitors ahead in the 32nd, beating the offside trap and rounding Mike Gibson, but hitting the post. The ball was scrambled away for a corner.

Adioski's flag kick presented Gilbert with the chance to head fiercely to beat Gibson, but Northam cleared the ball off the line.

Lawrie McKinna signalled his intentions in the 48th, turning nicely to slam a shot at the Macedonia keeper, Avellino, having found space with this back to goal.

Peter Bennett sent over a cross in the 59th for The Demons, the ball spinning off his boot to



GEOFF GUNNING

Northam whose shot was going wide until McKinna timed his run perfectly, to slide the ball into the net at the far post.

In the 68th Gunning and Avellino were involved in a race for the ball which saw the goalie get there first, but spill the ball. Gunning then went round Avellino and crossed quickly for McKinna to slam home a volley at the far post.

Mike Gibson made two important saves in the last few minutes, but Blacktown did dominate most of the second half and were comfortable winners.

BLACKTOWN CITY: M. Gibson, Lees, Langon, Bennett, Williams (Easthorpe 84) Northam, Mason, McKinna, Bourke, Comerford (Beggie 78), Gunning.

SYDNEY MACEDONIA: Avellino, Souris, Bozkovski, Reveley, Pilovski, Koczka, Surjan, Kotsias (Crkovski 72), Adioski, Gilbert, Kadric.

REFEREE: John McConnell.

TOP GOAL SCORERS

12 Lawrie McKinna (Black).

10 Grant Bard (Sutherland), Scott Gilbert (Syd Mac).

9 Bruno Beddoni (Rock), Stewart Porter (Rockdale).

8 Tony Lemezina (Canb), Jose Iriarte (Warr).

7 Louis Dounis (Cant), Robbie O'Shea (Suth).

6 Paul Foster (Canb), Darryl Sharp (Suth), Ralph Maier (Austral), John MacKie (Warr).

5 Randell Easthorpe (Black), Osvaldo El Ali (Avala), Geoff Gunning (Black).

4 Sasha Bozkovski (Syd Macedonia), Anthony Versi (Warr), Sasha Spirovski (Syd Macedonia), Harry Christodoulou (Suth), Rod Wyatt (Pol), John Koch (Canb), Jarek Nowicki (Pol), Stephen Berry (Avala), Dean McWhirter (Austral), Zlatko Markovski (Rock), Scott Deveridge (Rock), Tony Parison (Cant), Zoran Ilic (Cant), Nick Oustambasidis (Cant).

3 Alex Bundalo (Avala), David Ensor (Suth), Peter Katholos (Cant), Shane Clinch (Suth).

Freshie was just too strong on day

AVALA 0
WARRINGAH FRESHWATER 2

AVALA lost any slight chance they might have had of featuring in the semi-finals when they failed to come to terms with a pretty resolute Warringah Freshwater at The Serbian Centre on Sunday.

Warringah won 2-0, never looking back after Vic Masi gave them a 4th minute lead.

A well placed shot from 10 metres by the hard-working midfielder set Avala back on their heels and they only really piled on any pressure during a short spell between the 25th and 35th minutes.

ROUND 20

BHP AUSTRAL 2 (Elphick, Maier) CANTERBURY M'VILLE 1 (Dounis)

ROCKDALE ILINDEN 2 (Segetro, Beddoni pen) SUTHERLAND SHIRE 3 (R O'Shea, Bard, Sharp) MANLY NTH SHORE 0 SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 0

POLONIA 1 (Casserley) CANBERRA METRO 2 (Ravenello 2) AVALA 0 WARRINGAH F/WATER 2 (Masi, McKie)

BLACKTOWN CITY 2 (McKinna 2) SYDNEY MACEDONIA 0



FIRST DIVISION
COMPILED BY
PAUL GOODWIN



Richard Miranda

74th. Having picked the ball up in centre field, Iriarte raced 25 metres, rounded the keeper and chipped the ball over for McKie to finish clinically.

The win puts Warringah back on track for a first ever semi-finals spot, but any risk of another Avala-Canberra confrontation evaporated with this uninspiring performance. It really was an easy win by the Northerners who must quietly fancy their chances in the top five series.

AVALA: Pupovac, Drlene, Radovic, Ashton, Vrankovic, Berry, Divljak, Benitez (Kupresanin 80), El Ali, Vukmirovic, Fitzharris.

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER: Gunning, Etherington, Brown, Sterrey, Pierce, Miranda, Versi, Masi, de Ceglie, Iriarte, McKie.

REFEREE: Greg Levert.

Great day for Shire

ROCKDALE ILINDEN 2
S'LAND SHIRE 3

SUTHERLAND almost certainly got the points they needed to wrap up their premiership when they beat Rockdale 3-2 at Jensen Park on Saturday.

The Sharks raced to a 3-0 lead after 55 minutes, before a late rally by Rockdale made a game of it in the last half hour.

Robbie O'Shea put Sutherland one up in the 18th, being on the end of a move begun by Shane Clinch with a left side run and receiving the last pass from Grant Bard before blasting the ball past Tony Franken from the edge of the area.

Paul Dart was in top form, saving from Markovski on more than one occasion.

Rockdale found themselves two down in the 39th, Grant Bard capitalising on a fine individual initiative with an acute angled shot which most did not think was possible to score from.

After beating a string of defenders Bard got to the byline and cracked the ball towards the far

post where it sneaked under Franken's guard.

It was 3-0 in the 53rd, Franken coming out in an unsuccessful attempt to stop Darryl Sharp chipping over his head, having received a cross from Shane Clinch on the left flank.

Rockdale managed to get on the scoresheet in the 60th, David Segreto troubling Dart with a powerful drive and steering home the rebound when Dart could only parry the first effort.

When Geoff Biscaya brought down a Rockdale man in the 69th Bruno Beddoni converted the penalty to give the home side a chance, but with Dart still doing good work and David Ensor booting off the line in the 70th, there was just enough goals to secure the vital three points.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Franken, Segreto, Leonard, Ralevski, Buchanan, Deveridge, Naumovski, Markovski, Wilson, Porter, Beddoni (Petrovski 84).

SUTHERLAND: Dart, Edmunds, Ensor, M. O'Shea, Biscaya, R. O'Shea, Brandtman (Lardis 80), Loney, Clinch, Bard, Sharp (Condeoleon 89).

REFEREE: Gary Power.

Early goal for Metro

POLONIA 1
CANBERRA METRO 2

POLONIA was beaten 2-1 by Canberra at Chopin Park on Sunday, going behind in the 2nd minute to a fine header by Andy Ravenello and after equalising in the 5th, seeing any chance of two points disappear with Ravenello's second in the 82nd.

Following a throw on the left which landed at Tony Lemezina's feet, the resultant cross found Ravenello leaping high to head home into the roof of the net. Observers felt that his jumping skills rivalled those of prominent Australian Rules stars, giving him a decided advantage in heading duels.

Paul Jones may have been at fault in conceding the Polonia goal, failing to hang onto Robert Casserley's far post volley after Jarek Nowicki had found Pavel Straszewski on the left side and

seen a good cross sent over.

Jones was possibly wrong-footed and had to change direction, only being able to help the ball into the net as he dived across the face of his goal to stop the shot.

In the 82nd minute the red-haired Ravenello again showed his aerial supremacy. Zoran Pratezina was part of a good build up which again found Lemezina, Pratezina's through pass being seized on and the cross reaching Ravenello after a nod back by Joe Gaget. The header back across goal provided the youngster with his second goal to seal a game which went well into stoppage time.

POLONIA: McGee, M. Richardson, Sepping (Hinton 67), Lasek, Hunter, Gatt, Caruso, Straszewski, Casserley, Jakubowski (Corapi 80), Nowicki.

CANBERRA METRO: Jones, Marcina, Vanzetti, Rogic, Koch, Beltrami (Milan 75), Pratezina, Gaget, Musitano (Grassick 80), Ravenello, Lemezina.

REFEREE: Nick Xanthos.

Finishing was not the strong point!

MANLY NS UTD 0
SOUTHERN DIST 0

A typical bottom of the table clash at Cromer Park on Sunday with inept finishing, especially by the home side, being the cause of the eventual 0-0 scoreline in the game between Manly North Shore and Southern Districts.

Dez Marton's recent emphasis on youth may take time to pay off, but with debut boy Vince Albanese and two other youngsters, Matthew Lowe and Matco Farac, carrying the attack there was more spark than there had been for a while.

In the 33rd minute Phil Moss released Matthew Lowe and after a swift move down the right side, the cross which was nodded on by Vince Albanese reached Matco

Farac whose own header hit the bar.

Moss had two good runs which ended without a decent shot on goal, the hard work going unrewarded. In the 47th and 64th the nuggety midfielder burst through only to run out of room as he ventured into the six yard box and was closed down by defenders.

Lowe set up Albanese for a chest down and a shot just wide in the 81st as the home side did everything but score.

Albanese had the best chance of all to seal the issue, but confronting Tony Pezzano late in the game, the big experienced goalie outwitted the tyro striker, saving the shot which was directed, eventually, straight at him.

Both Farac and Albanese were always in the thick of things, but at the other and stout work at the back by Stan Meda-

nic and Adam Ciantar ensured that Kevin Hagan and Peter Murray never really troubled the Manly Shore defence.

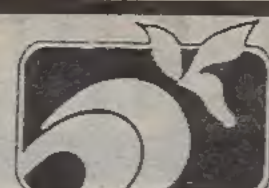
Southern Districts had two chances at the end of the first period, but Hagan muffed the first and Chris Card's dangerous looking cross missed by Prentice was headed to safety by Adam Ciantar at the far post.

In the second they were rarely sighted, but they survived to claim another good point as their revival continues, at least statistically.

MANLY NORTH SHORE UTD: Prentice, Greenaway, Ciantar, Medanic, Doyle, McGregor, O'Carroll, Moss, Farac, Lowe, Albanese.

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS: Pezzano, Gregson, Canosa, Moon Cheung, Ciaramella, Genc, Serbas, Genovese, Card, Hagan, Murray.

REFEREE: Roger Doneau.



Austral squeeze home

BHP AUSTRAL 2
C'BURY M'VILLE 1

THE semi-final race tightened ever further with BHP Austral beating Canterbury 2-1 at Austral Park in a thoroughly entertaining encounter.

The Berries dominated the early stages of the first half and it was no surprise when they went to the front in the 26th minute.

The Newcastle side had a couple of chances first, however, Nicky Meredith latching onto a Radman backpass in the 15th, before George Bouhoutsos intervened belatedly and Doug Elphick hitting the side netting in the 21st after a Bobby Naumov chipped cross.

The opener came when a Boogaard shot from an Australs corner was charged down and Canterbury made a lightning fast counter attack.

Before the locals knew what had hit them Nick

Oustambasidis and Peter Katholos had combined to set up Dounis for a shot to the left of the despairing Craig Carter.

The goal lifted the host side's determination and they hit back quickly.

Lovely work by Ralph Maier led to Doug Elphick ramming home the equaliser from 12 metres into the roof of the net.

Meredith, David Jones and Darren Stewart were involved in the build up which led to the ultimate winner in the 42nd minute.

Stewart hit the bar and Maier had no hesitation in steering in the rebound from close range.

Nice football during the second half produced no further goals, but plenty of excitement for a crowd which had a good view of the new grandstand as it quickly takes shape on the clubhouse side of Austral Park.

Perhaps the best chance for Newcastle to go further ahead came in the 66th when they wasted a free kick on the edge of the box.



CHARLIE YANKOS

Carter was able to save a Dounis shot in the 57th with a reflex action and it was only in injury time that there was any other fear that the Berries might get back in the game.

Appeals for handball when Stewart was struck on the arm by a cross went unheeded and it did appear to many that the

ball played the man.

BHP AUSTRAL: Carter, Roberts, Jones, Boogaard, Elphick, Tredinnick, McWhirter, Bailey, Stewart, Maier, Naumov.

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE: Bouhoutsos, Rezo, Radman, Yankos, Slavski, Kalageros, Katholos, Tsousidis (Adamou 67), Parison, Dounis, Oustambasidis.

REFEREE: Neil Jones.

Waverley up!

WAVERLEY, once again displaying champagne football, ended their Gala Day promotion on the highest note, lifting the Second Division Championship after disposing of closest rivals Petersham 2-0.

The home side, unbeaten now in their last 15 league matches, were never troubled by a lethargic but tough as teak Petersham.

While the visitors were restricted to a handful of long range efforts, Waverley were always quicker to the ball, and opened the scoring after 28 minutes.

Eric Ferguson nodded down a Michael Smith free kick for Robbie Jerkovic to slip the ball home under the advancing keeper.

In typical fashion, Waverley wrapped up the title with a goal befitting a Championship victory.

Eric Ferguson again displayed his class, flicking the ball over the head of a defender before running round and thumping a volley home in the 51st minute to effectively end the contest.

Dulwich Hill stretched their unbeaten run to five, and took outright second spot, following their efficient 2-0 defeat of Gladesville.

Dominating for most of the 90 minutes, the home side's classy display was punctuated by two fine goals from veteran Brazilian playmaker Nelio Borges.

The first after 33 minutes was started and finished in fine style by Borges, after slotting the ball down the line for Tome, the Brazilian met the cross at the far post and made no mistake from close range.

The home side held court in the midfield



throughout the game, but midway through the second stanza Gladesville enjoyed a brief purple patch as they harried Dulwich Hill into error.

However, the visitors found no way through a rock solid Dulwich Hill defence, led by outstanding performances from Zaya Jebrael and Kevin Gaffney.

The match was finally out of Gladesville's reach seven minutes from time, after Tome was felled on the edge of the box, Borges smashed the ensuing free kick home off the cross bar.

With a mixture of true grit and a touch of luck, Granville kept their slim semi final hopes aflame, following their 1-0 defeat of Campbelltown at Garside Park.

Without Alex Aroujo and Leo Delgado (suspended) and Mark Abi-Arrage (injured), Granville were expected to struggle against a Campbelltown side with similar outside chances of a berth in the finals.

The en masse counter-attacking style from the visitors, was matched by Granville's patient build up, and a controversial goal settled the issue.

Following sustained bombardment of the

Campbelltown goal, the visitors custodian lashed out at Granville's Jorge Cerro after a mid air collision, resulting in a spot kick from which Cerro made no mistake in the 51st minute.

At the death Granville were fortunate as Campbelltown peppered the target, Tony Marko produced three miraculous saves in succession from point blank range in the 85th minute, and George Cruz at full stretch saved the home side's bacon, clearing off the line three minutes later.

What a difference a week makes, Auburn crashed 5-1 at second bottom Central Coast, after thumping five past Port Hacking just seven days earlier.

The Coasters picked up their first win in seven matches, taking a two goal lead into the break after goals in the 10th and 36th minutes via Rob Whyte and Jason Gribble.

The visitors continued where they left off after the interval, Matt Garland heading home the third in the 53rd minute, and Derek Caisley providing the fourth five minutes later.

Sefat Katovik pulled a goal back for the home side, cracking a free kick through the wall in the 69th minute before Whyte grabbed his second three minutes from time to complete the rout.

Mt Pritchard, beaten just once in their last ten, leapfrogged Cyprus United into fourth, Stephen Baggott providing the only goal after 40 minutes, while Mt Drutt picked up their third win on the trot, disposing of Port Hacking 4-2.

Shire are ready to strike

THIS weekend Sutherland, who are four points clear, should be able to erase any doubts about their claims on the title.

While Blacktown City have a tricky task at Rangers Stadium against Southern Districts, which should, nevertheless, yield them all three points the Sharks are up

against Avala who have nothing other than pride to play for.

The potential is there for Blacktown to drop one or even two points, but the Sharks are going to be hard to stop and Avala have shown little spark recently.

Blacktown also has a tough game to finish with against Canterbury a week later, while Suther-

land are at Chopin Park against a still injury plagued Polonia. They must rank very hot favourites to get the major end of the season's prize-money.

Canterbury-Marrickville would appear to be set to collect maximum points from Manly North Shore at Arlington Oval, but the Berries are not the most consistent of sides and could get the shakes, even against this poorly performed team from Sydney's North.

A scoreless draw would make their semi-final prospects very slim, with Blacktown to face the following week.

Canberra are in a sound position for they are almost unstoppable at Deakin Oval and now that BHP Austral are without David Lowe and the NSL is looming, the home side is looking good for the three points.

The double header on the final weekend against Manly North Shore will ensure that the Metros have a first class chance of getting nine out of nine to wind up another sound season.

BHP Australs will hold the key for not only the Canberra team, but also Warringah, whom they meet in the last round.

These games are the hardest to predict and both sides could still qualify, but of the two Warringah seems the more likely candidate, with their one point advantage going into the last two rounds a critical factor.

We expect Warringah to beat Polonia, but dip out to the Newcastle side who will probably return empty handed from Canberra this weekend.

Draws in the last round are always a possibility for these closely matched sides when they meet, but a lot depends on how they fare in round twenty one, before we see how they approach their last outing.

Rockdale are looking a sound bet to feature prominently and although drawn away to Yugoslav rivals in the last two rounds have opponents in both cases who have no further interest in the semi-final race.

Even if they lost to Sydney Macedonia on Sunday they could still have enough points to spare after tackling Avala to fend off challenges by any of the clubs beneath them.

Our brave tip is that Sutherland will head Blacktown, Canberra, Rockdale and Warringah, with Canterbury and BHP Austral just dipping out, but interest will be high right up until the last ball is kicked.

Warringah may need at least a point from Newcastle, if Canterbury wins this weekend, but should get it. Australs would need to beat Canberra to pose a threat and then take two at least from the Warringah game.

The possibilities are endless and they offer a first class scenario to wind up a much better season than the 1990 fiasco.



GLADESVILLE-HORNSBY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

AN

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER CLUB

Invites APPLICATIONS for the Position of

**STATE LEAGUE
HEAD COACH**

Gladesville-Hornsby currently competes in NSW State League Division II and would expect to be in Division I in the revamped State League in 1992.

Initial enquiries should be directed to the Association Office on 887 2116 but all applications must be in writing providing full CV and references and addressed to:

**The President
Gladesville-Hornsby
Football Association Inc.
PO Box 223
EASTWOOD, NSW. 2122**

SEVENTH DIV

GRADE 1	
Kingsgrove A	15 11 2 0 2 29 9 37
Sydney Crests	16 9 5 0 2 26 18 37
Western Suburbs	15 9 2 0 4 27 21 31
Ashbury S.C.	15 7 3 0 5 23 28 27
Marrickville SC	15 7 2 0 6 21 15 25
Salvadoran Assoc	15 6 3 0 6 22 17 24
Club Calabris	15 5 2 0 8 19 23 19
Rockdale Youth	15 3 1 0 11 18 42 11
Calabris	15 1 0 0 14 8 38 3

GRADE 2

Rockdale Youth	15 12 0 0 3 58 29 36
Sydney Crests	16 11 1 1 3 32 17 36
Kingsgrove A	15 9 2 0 4 28 15 31
Western Suburbs	15 4 5 2 4 24 25 24
M'ville S.C.	15 6 2 0 7 25 29 22
Ashbury S.C.	15 5 3 0 7 42 41 21
Calabris	15 5 1 1 8 28 26 18
Salvadoran A	15 2 2 2 9 12 33 12
Club Calabris	15 2 2 0 11 28 47 10

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE

GRADE 1	
North Ryde	17 10 0 1 0 89 9 49
Western Dist	15 11 1 1 2 47 14 36
North Rocks	16 8 3 0 5 44 22 30
Epping E'wood	15 8 1 0 7 39 41 26
Mt Drutt Town	16 4 2 0 10 25 54 16
Modica Eagles	17 3 1 0 13 18 78 11
Gladesville R	15 1 0 0 14 13 65 3

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION LTD

invites

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

from Clubs re-joining the proposed new PROVISIONAL COMPETITIONS.

Leagues are to be formed on advantageous financial terms.

Write in the first instance to:
**The General Manager,
NSW Soccer Federation Ltd,
235/257 Meurants Lane,
PARKLEA. 2155.**



A close look at the new plans

BY PAUL GOODWIN

JUST the other week the NSW Soccer Federation unveiled its plans for the future with the release of documents setting out objectives for the immediate future.

Clubs from the major divisions were told of a number of important decisions taken by the Board of Directors and management which would set the scene for an overhaul of the present system.

The appointment of a specialist Marketing Manager has been on the cards for some time and has been generally welcomed.

Regional Development is an issue which is being especially addressed, with the aim of making country areas more fully a part of the overall picture of soccer in the state.

The introduction of a Regional League by 1993 will be keenly anticipated.

The Schools programme for both girls and boys should be very worthwhile, with coaching standards being improved and new links being estab-

lished between professionals playing the game and aspiring youngsters.

This should allow for a greater understanding of the significance of soccer as a game for player and spectator alike and should do much to bridge the gap between youngsters playing soccer in schools and in junior clubs and those involved in the senior game where numbers fall away so substantially.

The main focus of this story, however, is on the announcement of a Super League for the 1992 season which was received with mixed feelings.

The likely stumbling blocks for each club are shown below:

AVALA Floodlights, turnstiles, sheltered seating for 500, adequate parking, press room, media contacts, dugouts.

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE Floodlights, turnstiles, adequate parking, press room.

POLONIA Floodlights, turnstiles, sheltered seating for 500, press room.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN Floodlights, dugouts, adequate parking, press room, long term lease.

SUTHERLAND Sheltered seating for 500, elevated seating for 1,000, press room, adequate parking.

SYDNEY MACEDONIA Floodlights, sheltered seating for 500, elevated seating for 1,000, press room, media contacts, lease.

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER Floodlights, long term lease, sheltered seating for 500, turnstiles, press room.

MANLY NORTH SHORE as for Warringah Freshwater (apart from lease).

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS Floodlighting, long term lease, sheltered seating for 500, press room, media contacts, adequate parking, turnstiles.

This is by no means comprehensive and some clubs may, of course, be able to address some of the problems in time.

There are also other points which still need attention in most cases, including development and promotion programmes and youth policies which may not be seen as full enough.

The issue which puzzles many officials and the media is the relationship between the latest batch of qualification criteria for the



ASF and NSW Federation chiefs study the new format.

State's premier competition and the strategic development plan of a few years ago which was said to be still in place.

According to Peter Gray, President of the Federation since the start of the season, the new ground and administration criteria is seen as being an extension of the original mission statement.

While it can be stated that these criteria represent a refinement of the old standards laid down, some of the original objectives appear to no longer be of paramount importance.

The strategic plan in-

troduced under the John Constantine/Ian Holmes regime made it plain that clubs were expected to not only improve their facilities, but look at combining their operations to provide a more even geographical distribution, particularly in the metropolitan area.

Nothing has been mentioned in the latest release of such matters and clubs could be forgiven for thinking that once they attend to any basic ground and administrative shortcomings they will be set for the future.

They would surely be more than disturbed if,

after spending considerable sums of money to bring their facilities and infrastructure up to scratch, they were to be told that the time had come to enforce the effectively dormant sections of the strategic plan limiting the number of clubs in their geographical area and requiring them to amalgamate with another outfit.

Peter Gray agrees that some sections of the strategic plan have been set aside for the moment and indicates that the emphasis has been selectively shifted to the problems of grounds and administration, alone, for the

time being.

It is certain that clubs are confused about the direction the semi-professional game will be taking in the next decade and although most welcome the expected further extension of ground improvement which will be for the overall benefit of everyone, they are still no sure if the policies introduced earlier are to be fully implemented by the Federation management.

The next few months will be busy ones for most aspiring clubs and it is hoped that some stability ensues as a direct result of the efforts.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION LTD

STATE LEAGUE

ROUND 21

DIVISION 1

SUNDAY AUGUST 18

Sutherland Districts	v	Blacktown City	Rangers Stadium
Cant/M/Ville	v	Manly Nth Shore	Arlington Oval
Canberra Metro	v	BHP Austral	Deakin Oval
Warringah F/W	v	Polonia	Cromer Park
Sutherland Shire	v	Avala	Seymour Shaw
Sydney Macedonia	v	Rockdale Ilinden	Jensen Park

DIVISION 2

SUNDAY AUGUST 18

Central Coast	v	Port Hacking	Pluim Park
Petersham	v	Auburn Yugal	Erskineville Oval
Gladesville Hby	v	Waverley	Christie Park
Campbelltown	v	Dulwich Hill	Bensley Road
Cyprus United	v	Granville Chile	Wentworth Park
Mt Druitt Town	v	Mt Pritchard	Popondetta Park

MATCH TIMES: (unless otherwise stated)

Reserve Grade commences at 12.00pm

First Grade commences at 12.00pm

PHONE RESULT SERVICE: 0055 22681

See State League action this week!

Country clubs given a chance

Soccer clubs located in NSW country areas are being offered membership of new regional leagues, the first of which is being planned to open for business in 1993.

Until now, country soccer has been exclusively covered by the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation through its affiliated Branches and Associations, but the senior NSW Soccer Federation is now keen to find ways to upgrade the standard of country football.

Peter Thorne, the recently appointed general manager of the NSW Soccer Federation, had this to say about the plans which the Federation has been developing.

"For far too long

now soccer in the state, and especially at senior level, has been devoting its attention mainly to the Eastern seaboard.

"Our intention is to work towards having each major city and town entering a competition within its region.

"These regions will be set up similarly to the group system operating in NSW country Rugby League.

"They will give talented youth players in the country the opportunity to progress in a more structured manner."

The Federation's current intention is to establish the first country regional competition in the area which shows the greatest degree of enthusiasm in setting the scheme into motion.

KU-RING-GAI DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION



KU-RING-GAI DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

METROPOLITAN & YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

Preliminary trials for the K.D.S.A. 1992 Representative teams are scheduled as follows:

Sunday 8th September at Griffith Oval, Lofberg Road, West Pymble.

U/11 at 9 a.m.

U/12 at 10 a.m.

U/13 & U/14 at 11 a.m.

U/15 & U/17 at 12 noon

Sunday 15th September at William Cowan Oval, Cowan Road (off Mona Vale Road, S Ives Village Green), St Ives.

U/11 & U/12 at 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

U/13, 14, 15 & 17 at 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Further information can be obtained from Brian Davies 449 9860 (H) • 636 777 (W)

Victorian Premier League



Results

MOOROOLBARK 3 (Brogan, 2, Mantel) (ST Albans) THOMASTOWN 3 (McAleer 2, O'Donnell), MORWELL FALCONS 3 (McMullen 3) ALTONA GATE 2 (Egan, Todorovski), OAKLEY 0 B JUVEN-TUS 0, GREEN GULLY 1 (Becvinovski) BULLEEN 3 (Incantalupo 2, Grbac), FAWKNER 3 (Hanna 2, Wilson) CROYDON 2 (Lennon, McGeachey), NORTHCOTE CITY 0 ALBION 4 (White 3, Freund).

Victorian Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brunswick Juv.	23	14	6	3	40	9	34
Bulleen	23	12	8	3	44	27	32
Morwell Falcons	23	13	5	5	44	24	31
Altona Gate	23	11	6	6	32	28	28
Fawkner	23	9	9	5	31	27	27
Thomastown	23	11	4	8	29	18	26
St Albans	23	7	9	7	34	32	23
Croydon City	23	8	7	8	26	29	23
Albion	23	7	8	8	34	28	22
Green Gully	23	6	10	7	27	30	22
Oakleigh	23	6	7	10	27	34	19
Mooroolbark	23	7	1	15	23	41	15
Northcote City	23	5	4	14	19	44	14
Doveton	23	0	6	17	8	52	6

MOST EXCITING/PLAYER

VOTES UPDATE

LEADING VOTEGETTERS

13 Incantalupo (Bull)	14 Pondeljak (StA)
12 MacNicol (Juve)	Becvinovski (GG)
11 Gymnopoulos (Nth)	11 Pappas (Bull)
10 A Cassar (MF)	10 Hanna (Fawk)
9 Becvinovski (GG)	McMullen (MF)
Hodgson (Dove)	9 McAleer (Thom)
8 Smart (GG)	Grbac (Bull), Smith (Juve)

LEADING SCORERS

VIC SENIORS

STATE LEAGUE DIV ONE

Knox City	23	15	5	3	59	18	35
Springvale City	23	14	5	4	54	18	34
North Geelong	23	14	5	4	54	18	34
Frankston City	23	9	7	7	28	30	25
Frankston Pines	23	9	7	7	28	30	25
Westgate	23	10	4	8	29	26	24
Western Sub	23	6	11	5	30	23	23
Wentworth	23	7	8	7	29	29	21
Ringwood City	23	5	11	8	24	29	21
Bell Park	23	7	5	10	24	31	19
Essendon City	23	6	11	11	23	38	18
Melbourne City	23	6	11	11	23	38	18
Box Hill	23	4	13	10	25	35	15
Port Melbourne	23	3	9	12	19	37	15

STATE LEAGUE DIV TWO

Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38
Altona City	23	15	6	3	46	24	36
Broadmeadows	23	11	8	4	30	30	30
Doncaster Rovers	23	10	6	7	29	30	26
Chelsea	23	12	4	9	35	28	28
Bentleigh Green	23	10	4	9	48	28	28
Kelvin	23	8	7	7	35	32	24
Waverley City	23	10	12	3	39	42	24
Clifton Hill	23	8	10	3	37	22	22
Sunbury City	23	6	10	10	26	29	22
Sandringham	23	4	12	12	43	20	20
Geelong	23	5	13	14	25	19	19
Dandenong	23	4	12	12	42	17	17
Brighton	23	5	13	14	28	17	17
Suns Heights	23	6	13	12	26	17	17

STATE LEAGUE DIV THREE

Knox City	23	15	5	3	59	18	35
Springvale City	23	14	5	4	54	18	34
North Geelong	23	14	5	4	54	18	34
Frankston City	23	9	7	7	28	30	25
Frankston Pines	23	9	7	7	28	30	25
Westgate	23	10	4	8	29	26	24
Western Sub	23	6	11	5	30	23	23
Wentworth	23	7	8	7	29	29	21
Ringwood City	23	5	11	8	24	29	21
Bell Park	23	7	5	10	24	31	19
Essendon City	23	6	11	11	23	38	18
Melbourne City	23	6	11	11	23	38	18
Box Hill	23	4	13	10	25	35	15
Port Melbourne	23	3	9	12	19	37	15

STATE LEAGUE DIV FOUR

Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38
Altona City	23	15	6	3	46	24	36
Broadmeadows	23	11	8	4	30	30	30
Doncaster Rovers	23	10	6	7	29	30	26
Chelsea	23	12	4	9	35	28	28
Bentleigh Green	23	10	4	9	48	28	28
Kelvin	23	8	7	7	35	32	24
Waverley City	23	10	12	3	39	42	24
Clifton Hill	23	8	10	3	37	22	22
Sunbury City	23	6	10	10	26	29	22
Sandringham	23	4	12	12	43	20	20
Geelong	23	5	13	14	25	19	19
Dandenong	23	4	12	12	42	17	17
Brighton	23	5	13	14	28	17	17
Suns Heights	23	6	13	12	26	17	17

STATE LEAGUE DIV FIVE

Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38
Altona City	23	15	6	3	46	24	36
Broadmeadows	23	11	8	4	30	30	30
Doncaster Rovers	23	10	6	7	29	30	26
Chelsea	23	12	4	9	35	28	28
Bentleigh Green	23	10	4	9	48	28	28
Kelvin	23	8	7	7	35	32	24
Waverley City	23	10	12	3	39	42	24
Clifton Hill	23	8	10	3	37	22	22
Sunbury City	23	6	10	10	26	29	22
Sandringham	23	4	12	12	43	20	20
Geelong	23	5	13	14	25	19	19
Dandenong	23	4	12	12	42	17	17
Brighton	23	5	13	14	28	17	17
Suns Heights	23	6	13	12	26	17	17

STATE LEAGUE DIV SIX

Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38
Altona City	23	15	6	3	46	24	36
Broadmeadows	23	11	8	4	30	30	30
Doncaster Rovers	23	10	6	7	29	30	26
Chelsea	23	12	4	9	35	28	28
Bentleigh Green	23	10	4	9	48	28	28
Kelvin	23	8	7	7	35	32	24
Waverley City	23	10	12	3	39	42	24
Clifton Hill	23	8	10	3	37	22	22
Sunbury City	23	6	10	10	26	29	22
Sandringham	23	4	12	12	43	20	20
Geelong	23	5	13	14	25	19	19
Dandenong	23	4	12	12	42	17	17
Brighton	23	5	13	14	28	17	17
Suns Heights	23	6	13	12	26	17	17

STATE LEAGUE DIV SEVEN

Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38
Altona City	23	15	6	3	46	24	36
Broadmeadows	23	11	8	4	30	30	30
Doncaster Rovers	23	10	6	7	29	30	26
Chelsea	23	12	4	9	35	28	28
Bentleigh Green	23	10	4	9	48	28	28
Kelvin	23	8	7	7	35	32	24
Waverley City	23	10	12	3	39	42	24
Clifton Hill	23	8	10	3	37	22	22
Sunbury City	23	6	10	10	26	29	22
Sandringham	23	4	12	12	43	20	20
Geelong	23	5	13	14	25	19	19
Dandenong	23	4	12	12	42	17	17
Brighton	23	5	13	14	28	17	17
Suns Heights	23	6	13	12	26	17	17

STATE LEAGUE DIV EIGHT

Richmond	23	18	2	3	47	15	38
Altona City	23	15	6	3	46	24	36
Broadmeadows	23	11	8	4	30	30	30
Doncaster Rovers	23	10	6	7	29	30	26
Chelsea	23	12	4	9	35	28	28
Bentleigh Green	23	10	4	9	48	28	28
Kelvin	23	8	7	7	35	32	24
Waverley City	23	10	12	3	39	42	24
Clifton Hill	23	8	10	3	37	22	22
Sunbury City	23	6	10	10	26	29	22
Sandringham	23	4	12	12	43	20	20
Geelong	23	5	13	14	25	19	19
Dandenong	23	4	12	12	42	17	17
Brighton	23	5	13	14	28	17	17
Suns Heights	23	6	13	12	26	17	17



STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 1

Waverley	20	12	6	0	2	39	20	48
Duich Hill	20	9	5	2	4	27	20	39
Petersham	20	8	5	2	5	27	21	36
Mt Pritchard	20	8	6	0	6	27	27	36
Cyprus Utd	20	8	5	1	6	31	28	35
Granville	20	8	3	3	6	25	33	33
Granville	20	8	3	3	6	25	33	33
Mt Druit	20	8	3	0	9	36	37	30
Auburn Y	20	7	3	2	8	35	28	29
Camp town	20	6	5	1	8	24	24	29
Central Coast	20	6	2	10	25	25	24	29
Glenn Hinchey	20	7	1	11	24	31	21	21
Pt Hacking	20	3	2	0	15	26	59	13

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 2

Cyprus Utd	20	15	3	1	1	47	16	52
Duich Hill	20	11	7	1	1	45	22	48
Auburn Y	20	9	8	0	3	38	25	43
Pt Hacking	20	9	7	0	4	37	30	41
Mt Pritchard	20	8	5	2	5	27	33	36
Waverley	20	8	4	0	8	32	28	32
Glenn Hinchey	20	8	3	1	8	32	28	32
G ville Chile	20	5	5	0	10	29	44	25
Central Coast	20	3	7	2	8	31	28	25
Petersham	20	4	5	0	11	22	30	22
Camp town	20	4	3	1	12	32	49	19
Mt Druit	20	3	0	15	17	48	12	12

FEDERATION LEAGUE DIV 3 GR 1

West Wands'.....20	13	2	2	3	34	16	45
Lemnos A.S.....20	11	4	3	2	33	11	44
Belmore Herc.....20	11	3	0	6	45	24	39
North Ryde.....20	7	7	2	4	32	22	37
Uniof NSW.....20	7	4	2	7	24	29	31
Hills United.....20	6	2	2	8	26	25	30
Bathurst 75.....20	5	5	5	5	20	30	30
Rosebery Pt.....20	5	1	3	8	22	25	29
Bankstown.....20	4	4	0	10	25	29	26
C'bury & Dist.....20	4	3	4	10	20	37	20
Orange W'ah.....20	3	3	1	11	22	39	18
Arnciffe.....20	3	1	5	11	15	18	16

Tragedy strikes Fabulous Fabio

THOMASTOWN 3
DOVETON 1

BY ROD BOWLES

THOMASTOWN defeated cellar-dweller Doveton after scoring two goals in a minute at Waratah Reserve on Saturday.

Although Thomastown ran out convincing 3-1 winners it was not enough to satisfy coach Ken Murphy who was disappointed with his charges second half performance.

Doveton coach Jim Train was equally displeased with his side stating his players made too many school-boy errors and gave away three gift goals.

Thomastown opened the scoring after 22 minutes when Lou Bekiaris sent a perfect pass to Gerry McAleer, who slammed it past baffled keeper Brad Zeally.

A minute later, Thomastown went further ahead when Joe O'Donnell beat Zeally once again.

Three minutes before the interval Thomastown scored again when big Peter Cocker unselfishly passed to McAleer who easily tapped home number three.

Twelve minutes after the re-start, Doveton struck back with a high corner from Danny McMinamee which found Mitch Cattermole who smashed home a stunning consolation goal.

Thomastown's round 24 fixture, at home to St Albans next weekend, will be played this Saturday, August 17, and not Sunday, as originally scheduled.

DOVETON: Zeally, Brown, Luxford, McMinamee, Hodgson, Cox, Bot, A. McCormick, M. McCormick, Cattermole, Montgomery.

THOMASTOWN: Brian, De Propertis, Mihos, Karic, Di Martino, Mihallidis, O'Donnell, Tsangas, Cocker, Bekiaris, McAleer.

VOTES: M. Cattermole (Doves) - 1.
C. Tsangas (Thomas) - 2.

MOOROOLBARK 3
ST ALBANS 2

BY RAY SAUNDERS

MOOROOLBARK kept its Premier League survival hopes alive after a shock 3-2 win against a star stud-

ded St Albans at Esther Park on Saturday.

Barkers' coach Ian Williamson's radical youth policy is beginning to pay dividends as youngsters Dave Bradley and Jason Jobling have impressed in Mooroolbark's two wins in four days of last week.

The Barkers took the lead in the 27th minute when striker David Brogan took control of the ball beating Hussein Skenderovic and Chris Ketsakidis kicked the ball goalward only to see it stick in the mud, Brogan persisted and beat keeper Mario Vunderl to the ball to sweetly drive into the net.

After a rousing half-time Williamson speech, the Barkers came out firing and captain Rob Mantell made amends for an earlier miss to head goal number two from a Graham Heys cross.

St Albans mounted a comeback and were rewarded in the 55th minute with a goal from Ollie Pondeljak set-up by Joe Bacak.

Bacak sent another cross into the teeth of goal late in the game and substitute Patrick Alilovic made no mistake with a bullet like shot.

But the Barkers had the necessary mettle to seal victory in the 87th minute when keeper Vunderl dropped the ball allowing Brogan to swoop on the crumbs.

MOOROOLBARK: Bradley, Burton, A. Byrne, D. Byrne, Marshall, Mantell, Jobling, Campbell, McCallan, Brogan, Heys (Tsapaltolis).

ST ALBANS: Vunderl, Skenderovic, Ketsakidis, Radic, Colina, Vanis, Bacak, Marth, Pondeljak, Silic, Johnson (Gagula) (Alilovic).

VOTES: J. Jobling (Moorbark) - 3
H. Skenderovic (St Alb) - 3

MOOROOLBARK 3
ALTONA GATE 2

BY JOE COLOSIMO
MORWELL FALCONS enhanced its chances of championship glory after a gutsy 3-2 injury time victory against Altona Gate, to set up the match of the season versus Juven-

tus next Sunday at Olympic Park.

Watched by a bumper crowd Morwell Falcons was inspired by recent comments made by Juve coach Billy Rogers in the Sun newspaper.

Morwell's forward thinking resulted in a penalty awarded for a foul on Anthony Cassar after only six minutes of play which Paul Harris was unable to convert.

Morwell continued to push forward but Altona rebounded and caught them square with Zoran Todorovski burying his opportunity.

The Falcons, however continued its forward forays and were rewarded with an equaliser via ex-Altona forward Gary McMullen.

With both teams faint championship hopes resting on the proceeding 45 minutes, Anthony Cassar sent Ian Roodhouse away, whose pin-point cross saw McMullen rise in spectacular fashion to put Morwell ahead.

With Anthony Cassar and McMullen dominating midfield, Morwell looked home, however the never-say-die attitude of Altona forced a 90-minute equaliser in which Charlie Egan blew past keeper Dave Reynolds.

MORWELL FALCONS: Reynolds, Harris, May, Roodhouse, Pender, Ramos (Bruno), A. Cassar, McMullen, Nield, E. Cassar, Wright.

ALTONA GATE: A. Micevski, S. Micevski, Momirovski, Z. Markovski, Kebakoski, Donnelly, Linguovski, Todorovski (Egan).

VOTES: A. Cassar (Morwell) - 2
R. Momirovski (Altona) - 1

GREEN GULLY 1
THOMASTOWN 3

BY GREG BLAKE

TRAGEDY struck title-chasing Bulleen for the second time this season last Sunday when brilliant midfielder Fabio Incantalupo was stretchered off Gully Reserve with a suspected broken left leg.

'Fabulous Fab' crashed to the ground in agony after what had seemed a harmless late challenge by Green Gully skipper

Steve Chetcuti with only 12 minutes remaining in the match.

Bulleen, which led 3-1 thanks to two goals from the midfield maestro, went on to take the points in a game of fluctuating fortunes, but, as was to be expected, the mood was sombre in the Bulleen camp after the game.

Incantalupo, the leading vote-getter in ABSW's Most Exciting Player Award, was the fifth player to break his leg in Premier League competition this season, the third in three rounds, and he joins team mate Bill Tsiakos on the sidelines for the remainder of the season.

Incantalupo had been Bulleen's inspiration on Sunday, pulling his team out of trouble with a cracking volleyed left foot goal in the 23rd minute and scrambling home another just eight minutes before his sensational departure.

In between times he managed to set up Bulleen's other goal, a 36th minute Anthony Grbac penalty, after his through ball got Damian Mori away, with Mori up-ended by Kuzman in the area.

For the most part Gully had looked the better side, with Davie Hogben, Wayne Attard, David Azzopardi and Kenny Smart all particularly impressive.

Gully, which had levelled at 1-1 in the 25th minute with a glorious header from Sasha Becvinovski, simply wasted its chances in this match.

GREEN GULLY: Sant Hogben, Campbell, Kuzman, Belic, Chetcuti, Attard, Becvinovski, Azzopardi (Clanter), Hunter Smart.

BULLEEN: Raponi, Valentic, Ruccia, Krajacic Marsan, Grbac, Mori, Thodis, Pappas (Vesnaver), Incantalupo (Dal Ben), Tuck.

VOTES: K. Smart (GG) - 1.
F. Incantalupo (Bull) - 2.

NORTHCOTE 0
ALBION 1

BY PETER KOTSIRIS

AFTER an even first half a more organised and professional Albion Turk-Gucu demoralised a pathetic Northcote City to send them crashing back

to the first division by the humiliating scoreline of 4-0.

Chances in the first half were few and far between for either side but Albion took the decisive lead moments before half-time from a set-piece. Les Carter's corner was flicked on by John Grimaud past the on-coming goalkeeper Mark Tarudia for Andrew Freund to put away the easy task from half-a-yard out.

In the second half Albion crushed Northcote with three superb goals.

Twenty minutes into the second half Freund's shot hit a post but Northcote's defence could only half clear and Dale White picked his spot from a near impossible angle to send the ball home despite a valiant attempt by Jim Constantinou to clear off the line.

Moments later Northcote was back in the first division when a disastrous pass by Constantinou which went straight to White who chipped keeper Tarudia from all of 35 yards.

It was now a procession and Albion got its fourth after a fine run by substitute Ahan Patsaman, who cut back a cross to White who completed his hat-trick.

NORTHCOTE: Tarudia, Mesourini, J. Constantinou, Anezakis, Kouremenos, Panagopoulos, Iliopoulos, Gymnopoulos (Milanovic), Metaxas, Kokinos, Nalpentides (Tsangas).

ALBION: Toth, Butrakoski, Binyazar, Russell, Macleod, Carter, Kadlicek (Patsaman), Grimaud, White, Freund (Stefanac).

VOTES: M. Anezakis (North) - 1
D. White (Alb) - 3

FAWKNER 3
CROYDON CITY 2

BY TONY ABATE

AFTER five games without a win, Fawknar laid to rest last week's nightmare performance against Bulleen with a 3-2 win against Croydon.

Fawknar initiated the first goal of the match after only 10 minutes, when Mark Wilson was on hand to convert a sweet volley which had been directed by David Hanna's head.

Ten minutes after the re-start, Hanna edged Fawknar further ahead with a forging run which gave birth to a thunderous shot past a totally exposed Darren McGrath.

Five minutes later, Andy Humble spear-headed the Croydon revival with a symbolic strike past Dean Anastasiadis which acted as a confidence building tool.

Indeed one could only ponder of negative thoughts re-surfacing into the Fawknar minds, when Kieron Lennon towered high to craft an unperturbed header past Anastasiadis.

As the match looked to be heading into an unmoving stalemate, David Hanna restored the Fawknar faithful into full chorus 10 minutes from the end, when he hooked in a skillful goal which paid full tribute to an enterprising Carlos Retre run into the penalty area.

FAWKNER: Anastasiadis, Welsh, Tombolato, Vlatkovic (Gabrielson), Schipano, Wilson, Lucchesi, Hanna, Stubbins, Retre, Emmanuelle.

CROYDON: McGrath, Brown (Rinnovasi), Nolan, McCabe, Brack, Lennon, McGeachy, McAethur, Humble, Klepac, Field.

VOTES: C. Retre (Fawks) - 1
A. Humble (Croyd) - 1

OAKLEIGH 0
JUVENTUS 0

BY DAVID BEARD

AFTER being held to a 0-0 draw by lowly Oakleigh for the second time this season on Sunday, Juventus' lead has been reduced to two points at the top of the table ahead of nearest rival Bulleen Veneto.

The other main contender Morwell Falcons are only three points behind Juve and the two Italian-backed giants will meet head on next Sunday at Olympic Park in a clash that could decide the championship issue.

You could hear a pin drop in Brunswick's dressing rooms after the match as the players were stunned after having ample scoring opportunities to no avail.

JUVENTUS: Laumets, Corvan, Della Rocca, MacNichol, Sabatino, Smith, Minichiello, Ferla, Inglesse (Massoni), Soncini, De Amicis.

OAKLEIGH: Alexandropoulos, Bitsonis, Gourlias, Vagias, Nicolaidis, Haidaris (Mills), Halford, Leonardos, Zemunik, Androu, Lujic.

VOTES: M. Alexandropoulos (Oaks) - 2
J. Corvan (Juve) - 1

NORTHCOTE CITY 1
MOOROOLBARK 2

BY GREG BLAKE

A remarkable 20 second half goal by defender Adam Byrne capped a stirring Mooroolbark victory in its crucial re-scheduled round 21 Premier League match against Northcote City at 45 John Cain Reserve last Wednesday night.

The Barkers fought back from a half time deficit to take the points in the relegation derby, with Byrne netting an inspired winner as he looped an angled drive home from all of 25 metres, catching Northcote keeper Mark Tarudia off his line.

The win was all the more impressive given that Mooroolbark, after an equaliser from David Brogan two minutes after half time, had been reduced to ten men when referee John Fraser sent off defender Dave McIntosh.

McIntosh received his marching orders after allegedly elbowing John Kouremenos.

Gymnopoulos set John Iliopoulos up for the match opener with a delightful through ball to space minutes from half time, and the same combination almost made it 2-0 in first half injury time, with Iliopoulos this time denied by the woodwork.

Mooroolbark completely turned the tables after the break as Northcote tumbled further towards relegation.

NORTHCOTE: Turudia, Mesourini, N. Constantinou, Anezakis, Kouremenos, Panagopoulos, Iliopoulos, Gymnopoulos, Metaxas (Milanovic), Kokinos (Nalpentides), J. Constantinou.

MOOROOLBARK: Bradley, Marshall, A. Byrne, D. Byrne, McIntosh (sent off), Burton, Campbell, Mantell, McCallan, Brogan, Heys.

Vlado Vlahovic's State Preview

Falcons ready to fly

MORWELL Falcons will throw the title race wide open again if it defeats leader Brunswick Juventus at Middle Park on Sunday.

Juventus will be eager to reverse the early season loss to the Falcons, whilst Morwell will be equally desperate and this should make for a classic encounter.

The Falcons lost only two games in 17 weeks of late and the players' spirits are high in anticipation of a big season finish to the league and then the Dockerty Cup.

Morwell continues to impress even with continual injury concerns to key players; Adrian Pender, Andy O'Dell, Emil Bruns and Tom Daly.

Morwell coach Bobby McLachlan is quietly confident of doing the double over Juve and said: "We are waiting to pounce on any chance that comes our way, but Juve is in the box seat to win the title because of an easier run home."

THOMASTOWN tackle fast finishing St Albans Dinamo at Partridge Reserve on Sunday.

With the disappointment of losing coach Ken Murphy as a player for the rest of the season with a broken leg, and the overall misfortune of slipping out of title contention, Thomastown has only pride and a respectable position to play for.

St Albans, under coach Tony Vrzina, has recently gone 10 matches without defeat and with four or five NSL players available at any one time, they just might continue to stretch the unbeaten run.

WILL THIS be cellar-dweller Dove-



Domenic Ruccia of Bulleen.

ton's big week?

Doveton meets title-contender Fawkner Azzurri at Waratah Reserve on Saturday and will need to fully exploit any complacency which Fawkner might be guilty of now that its championship hopes have dimmed.

TITLE-threat Bulleen Veneto tackle relegation-threatened Oakleigh at the

impressive Veneto complex on Sunday.

Oakleigh will be desperate for at least a point to keep its head above water, but highly-talented Bulleen will be equally motivated and have the added bonus of being better equipped.

ALTONA Gate tackles relegation battlers Northcote

City at Paisley Reserve on Sunday.

Altona Gate with only a mathematical chance of winning the title, should defeat lowly Northcote City, who might still avoid the dreaded drop.

ALBION battles relegation-doomed Mooroolbark at Selwyn Park on Sunday.

Albion has performed with grit and determination of late and is desperate to complete the season on a high note.

CROYDON City meets Green Gully in the battle of the also-rans at the million-dollar Dorset Gardens complex on Sunday.

BY GREG BLAKE

THREE of the changes proposed in an attempt to revamp the ailing Victorian Premier League have been accepted by the VSF Board of Management, with a planned home-and-away state championships' play-off between Victoria and NSW to commence this year.

That is the first of the initiatives to become a reality.

Other changes accepted, in principle, include a top five series to decide the Victorian champion from the 1992 season, and a two NSL guest player ruling, also to come into force from next year.

However, a suggestion that the Premier League reserves competition be dumped in favour of a youth league, similar to the NSL system, is unlikely to be pursued.

To accommodate the number of clubs applying to field youth teams in the NSL competition this summer, the VSF has put a written submission to the ASF suggesting a two-division southern competition for 1991-92.

The VSF submission to admit upwards of 20 youth teams into Southern Division competition has not been ruled out by the ASF.

The other major change, the idea of the Premier League going into head-to-head competition with the NSL by reverting to a January kick-off in 1992, has been rejected by the VSF board.

The top five play-offs concept, which will only affect the Premier League from next season, will have to be accepted by all VSF member clubs at a Special General Meeting, as it requires amendments to the constitution of the federation.

The contentious guest player issue has also finally been addressed, with the board accept-

ing a two player limit as from 1992.

VSF assistant executive director, Terry Jones, is currently working on a document reflecting the new ruling, which will go back before the board for final approval.

As part of the new loan player limit, the VSF is expected to officially recognise loan player transfers for the first time next season.

Dates have not been set for the NSW v Victoria champions' play-off, however, Premier League chairman, Joe Caruso, says the NSWVFA has responded favourably to the initiative and the series should go ahead in October or

November.

If successful, the interstate play-offs could be extended to include the Queensland, South Australian and Tasmanian champions in a round-robin series in 1992.

"We have been idle and we need changes", Caruso told ABSW recently.

"We must not be afraid to make these changes if the board believes they are going to be beneficial to the game."

"There's still a long way to go, but we are working towards having a healthy and thriving Victorian competition for many years to come".

THIS WEEK

Sat, 17th August Round 24
Doveton v Fawkner

Sun, 18th August

Croydon City v Green Gully, Bulleen v Oakleigh, Bruns Utd Juventus v Morwell Falcons, Altona Gate v Northcote City, Albion v Mooroolbark, Thomastown v St Albans

STATE LEAGUE DIV. ONE

Sat, 17th August Round 26
Bell Park v Port Melbourne, Ringwood City bye, Essendon City v North Geelong.

Sun, 18th August

Box Hill v Mordialloc, Caulfield City v Melbourne City, Frankston pines v Knox City, Westgate v Werribee, Western Suburbs v Springvale City

STATE LEAGUE DIV. TWO

Sat, 17th August Round 26
Altona City v Bentleigh Greens, Broadmeadows City v Richmond, Chelsea v Nunawading City, Clifton Hill v Geelong, Dandenong v Suns Heights Polonia, Doncaster Rovers v Keilor, Brighton v Sunbury United, Sandringham City v Waverley City.

STATE LEAGUE DIV. THREE

Sat, 17th August Round 24
Eltham/Dia. Valley Utd v Heidelberg City, East Bruns./Ivanhoe v Lalor United, Moreland/Coburg v Moorabbin City, Clayton v Oakleigh Suburbs, Corio-Geelong Utd v Fitzroy City, Springvale Utd v Seaford United.

STATE LEAGUE DIV. FOUR

Sat, 17th August Round 24
Regent v Rosanna, Karingal Utd v Springvale Condors, Hawthorn Citizens v South Dandenong, Cranbourne v Yarraville, Boronia bye, Hamlyn Rangers v Langwarrin, Pascoe Vale v Mornington.

PROV LEAGUE DIV. ONE

Sat, 17th August Round 22
Frankston United v Malvern City, Knox Park v North Sunshine, Yallourn v South Springvale, Benwick City v Allona East, Melton v South Warrnambool, Brunswick City v Westvale, Forest Hill v Williamstown

PROV LEAGUE DIV. TWO

Sat, 17th August Round 22
Keysborough bye, Eastern Park Brimions v Lalor, Brandon Park v Lyndale United, Ballarat v East Geelong, Nth Glenroy St Marks v Mentone United, Uni of Melbourne v Meadow Park, Wantima v Hoopers Crossing

PROV LEAGUE DIV. THREE

Sat, 17th August Round 22
Hampton Park v Kew Eagles, Glenroy v Mitcham United, East Richmond v Monash University, Carrum United v Monbulk, Batman United v St Kilda, South Yarra v Port United, Waverley United v Ringwood Rovers.

PROV LEAGUE DIV. FOUR

Sun, 18th August Round 22
East Kew v Keilor United, Diggers Rest v Malvern Lemnos, Sth Wantima Cretan v Latrobe University, Collingwood City bye, Beaumans v Oakleigh United, Sunshine Park v Old Scotch, Waverley Wanderers v Riverside

PROV LEAGUE DIV. FIVE

Sun, 18th August Round 22
Albert Park Maccabi v Endeavour Hills, Cam. Grammar Old Boys v Thornbury Furlan Utd, Epping Concorde v Doncaster Inter, Broadmeadows Utd v Melbourne University, Balwyn City v Diamond Valley, Upfield v Northern United, RMIT bye.

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GREG BLAKE PULLS NO PUNCHES

A drastic change now needed



THE Victorian Premier League is courting disaster, and it is the players who face paying the price.

Premier League players face death or serious injury every time they take the field in Victoria's so-called top grade competition.

Despite calls for a new level of professionalism at Premier League level, Victorian clubs are not compelled to provide even the most rudimentary medical supervision at any Premier League fixture.

So whilst top administrators continue to push for better press and spectator facilities, the players, so often the poor relations, take their lives in their hands every time they take the field.

Recent serious injuries to Thomastown player-coach Ken Murphy and Albion veteran Tyrone James have once again highlighted the necessity for trained medical supervision at grounds.

James and Murphy both suffered broken legs in senior games recently, and although both were adequately attended to, in James' case, more serious injury might have resulted from want of proper medical supervision.

James crashed to the ground writhing in agony in the round 22 match at Skinner Reserve against Morwell Falcons, his leg shattered with a bone piercing the skin.

He lay prone, his face contorted in pain, for 25 minutes as he waited for

an ambulance.

Albion, despite having seen players Domenic Diliberto (1989) and Sertac Karayal (1990) suffer the same fate in successive seasons, did not have a trained medical officer on hand.

"When it happens, sometimes you cannot touch a player and we felt that the injury was serious enough to do just that", said club spokesman Bill Mustafa.

"We got blankets and covered the player and used the stretcher to block the wind.

"But it was a case of waiting until the ambulance arrived because they were the only people who were qualified to know what to do".

Morwell coach Bobby McLachlan paid tribute to match referee Jim Hogg, saying that he made all the right decisions in a difficult situation.

"I just saw the boy down injured", McLachlan said afterwards.

"He (Hogg) just came over and said that the fellow was in lots of pain and that he didn't think he should be moved".

Both Hogg and the Albion officials were correct in their judgement — James would almost certainly have suffered further had he been moved.

But the point is that good luck, not good management, guided their actions.

What would have been the scenario had James suffered an identical injury to that of Alan Davidson, who went to ground against Sydney City at Middle

Park in 1984, swallowing his tongue in the process?

Only quick thinking by a Hellas fan who ran off the terraces, and the subsequent actions of the then Slickers physio Mike Hickman saved 'Davo', who was writhing on the ground and turning blue, from possible death.

The chance of the same ad-hoc treatment being available at some poorly attended Premier League games is negligible.

Mustafa agrees, saying that his club will be pushing for compulsory medical officers at grounds given the events of recent days.

"I agree that it would be a terrific idea", he told ABSW.

"Some clubs do have medical people, some do not.

"But I don't think it would hurt clubs too much to have a qualified person on hand at all times.

"Our club will be pushing for it".

Murphy, who was full of praise for the action taken by officials when he broke his leg at Croydon in round 21, was a team mate of Davidson back on that fateful day in 1984.

He recalls running to Davidson's aid, seeing him turning blue and thinking the player was going to die.

He doesn't want to ever repeat the experience.

"The situation has to be addressed", says the Thomastown player-coach.

"I was lucky at Croydon.

"At Thomastown we have a supporter

who has a chiropractic clinic and either he or one or two of his off-siders are at every game.

"As well as that, the physio at Croydon was terrific.

"Even though they weren't required, the Croydon people had the stretcher and the airbag out in a couple of moments".

According to Murphy, his skipper Dean Hennessey wasn't so lucky when he went down with a broken leg at Oakleigh early in the season.

Murphy said the stretcher was nowhere to be seen.

"At the very least there should be someone at each club who knows where the stretcher is, where the airbag is and they should know exactly what to do", he told ABSW.

I myself witnessed the almost farcical situation at Mooroolbark this season when Bulleen defender Bill Tsikos went down with a broken leg and it took club officials a full eleven minutes to locate the stretcher.

When it was finally produced, it seemingly took an age for anyone to be able to operate the stretcher, one of the modern 'slat' type de-

signs, where slats are slipped under the patient and then connected to the support poles.

Victorian Soccer Federation executive director, George Wallace, concedes that the recent events have given the VSF just cause to reconsider the issue.

At this time there is no compulsion on clubs to provide trained medical officers.

"It has always been accepted that clubs provide some form of medical treatment, however", he said last week.

"Each club must have a medical room

and a stretcher on hand as well".

Wallace conceded that it must now be a consideration of the VSF to attempt to legislate for adequate medical supervision at grounds, following the lead of the state team, which has a doctor on hand for all matches.

The odds are that a Premier League club will be faced with a life-or-death situation at some time in the future.

Concussion, ruptured kidneys or a punctured lung are all rare injuries, but none-the-less likely in demanding football codes such as soccer.

All are potentially life-threatening.

I would doubt there would be more than six Premier League clubs with medical officers on hand on a weekly basis capable of dealing with such injuries in a professional manner.

I would also doubt that a snap inspection of Premier League facilities would reveal more than the very basic medical facilities.

Even the AFL junior 'Little League' competition requires the presence of a fully trained medical officer at each of its games.

As a semi-professional body the VSF must act immediately to ensure that every club fulfills its obligations to the health of its players.

Victoria's St John's Ambulance service offers a comprehensive first aid training course at the cost of just \$90.

There is also a level one Sports Training Course offered by St John's Ambulance, which is run in conjunction with the Australian Sports Medical Federation, which costs \$180.

Clubs should be directed to spend what is a relatively minimal amount of time and money on attending the courses.

THE Victorian Soccer Federation has launched an inquiry into events at Morwell Falcons' North Crinigan Reserve home ground late last month, following disturbances involving fans and officials of Premier League club St Albans.



KEN MURPHY: seriously injured



RECORDED RESULTS SERVICE

0055 38887
SUNDAY
MATCH RESULTS
SERVICE

- PREMIER LEAGUE
- STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1
- PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISIONS 4 & 5

(Updated by 6.30pm each Sunday evening)

0055 38878
SATURDAY
MATCH RESULTS
SERVICE

- PREMIER LEAGUE
- STATE LEAGUE DIVISIONS 1 TO 3

(Updated by 6.30pm each Saturday evening)

(Public Holidays: 0055 38878)

0055 38898
SATURDAY
MATCH RESULTS
SERVICE

- STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 4
- PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISIONS 1 TO 3

(Updated each Saturday evening by 6.30pm)

VICTORIAN JUNIOR TABLES

UNDER 11

CEN/SOUTH A

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
EAST BENTLEIGH	13	11	2	0	73	5 24
BRIGHTON	13	10	2	1	68	8 22
CLAYTON	10	8	1	1	53	8 17
ALBERT PARK MAC	9	4	3	2	21	14 11
SANDRINGHAM	11	5	0	6	38	28 10
NEW EAGLES	11	4	1	6	13	24 9
ELWOOD	11	4	1	6	13	32 9
BENTLEIGH GREEN	13	2	2	9	5	58 6
EAST RICHMOND	12	2	1	9	8	73 5
NORDBALLOCH	13	0	3	10	5	47 3
BYE 300	0	0	0	0	0	0 0

NORTHERN

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
MTW GLE ST MARK	15	10	3	2	50	8 23
B U JUVENUS	13	9	2	2	46	12 20
FARNHAM	14	8	4	2	34	8 20
THOMASTOWN	14	9	1	4	51	22 19
MEADOW PARK	14	7	3	4	43	21 17
NTW RESERVOIR	13	6	4	3	16	12 16
LALOR UNITED	14	6	3	5	42	26 15
NORTHCOE CITY	14	4	3	7	42	36 11
PRESTON	14	5	1	8	35	34 11
ESSENDON CITY	13	3	1	9	20	31 7
H/BERG UTD A	12	1	1	10	14	33 3
KEON PARK	12	0	0	12	2	152 0

CEN/SOUTH B

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
LANGWARRIN	9	9	0	0	43	2 18
BAYTER	11	8	2	1	43	7 18
F/STON UTD	11	8	1	2	36	12 17
NORWICH	11	4	3	4	26	16 11
BEAUMARIS	11	5	1	5	20	22 11
PENINSULA	10	5	0	5	27	28 10
HASTINGS	10	2	1	8	14	42 5
F/TON PINES	11	1	1	9	6	40 3
CARRUM UTD	11	1	1	9	3	49 3

EASTERN A

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
SPRINGVALE CITY	14	10	0	0	87	5 28
SEAFOOD UNITED	15	13	0	2	58	15 26
WAVERTLEY UTD A	14	11	0	3	66	17 22
DONCASTER ROV	14	9	1	4	42	18 19
MURRUMBEI CITY	14	8	1	5	30	18 17
BERWICK CITY	14	7	0	7	43	28 14
LYNDALF UNITED	13	6	1	8	28	42 13
RINGWOOD CITY	14	4	2	9	18	46 11
KNOX CITY	15	5	0	10	26	49 10
MONMURK	15	4	0	11	23	77 8
WAVERTLEY CITY	15	2	1	12	7	58 5
CLARINDA	15	0	1	14	4	64 1

EASTERN B

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
CROYDON CITY A	13	10	1	2	50	16 21
STH SVALE A	12	9	2	1	43	8 20
SHEBROOKE RANG	13	8	1	4	44	18 20
KARINGAL	13	7	3	3	27	16 17
ELTHAM	12	6	2	4	31	26 14
KNOX PARK	12	3	3	6	20	22 9
SPRINGVALE UTD	12	3	3	6	17	27 9
HARTMAN PARK	13	2	4	7	15	26 8
BULLEEN	12	1	0	11	5	34 2
GLENN WATERSLEY	10	0	1	9	3	53 1

EASTERN C

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
BRANDON PARK	13	11	2	0	90	9 24
DINGLEY	11	8	2	1	72	14 18
CRANBOURNE	10	7	2	1	55	13 16
DOVETON	10	5	1	4	35	18 11
CROYDON CITY B	11	4	2	5	39	33 10
OAKLEIGH	10	2	4	4	12	16 8
OAKLEIGH SUBURB	11	4	0	7	29	47 8
MALVERN CITY	9	1	4	4	10	31 6
STH SVALE B	11	1	2	8	4	93 4
HAWTHORN	10	0	1	9	1	73 1

NTH/WEST A

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
KEILOR A	13	11	2	0	74	6 24
SUNBURY UTD	12	8	1	3	44	12 17
ST ALBANS	12	7	3	2	43	11 17
REGENT	11	6	4	1	37	6 16
GREEN GULLY B	11	4	2	5	26	27 10
WESTERN SUBS	11	3	4	4	9	18 10
ALTONA EAST	11	2	5	4	7	14 9
WESTVALE	11	3	3	5	16	54 9
SUNSHINE PARK	12	2	0	10	6	38 4
300	3	0	2	1	2	12 2
GLENNY	13	0	2	11	4	70 2

NTH/WEST B

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
PASCOE VALE	11	8	3	0	43	3 19
LALOR	10	8	2	0	64	1 18
PRESTON B	10	5	1	4	30	22 11
MELTON B	9	5	1	3	17	14 11
POSANNA	10	5	0	5	17	14 11
KEILOR B	10	4	1	5	29	18 9
MERRIBEE	8	1	2	5	10	15 4
YARRAVILLE	6	0	2	4	0	18 7
BYE 300	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
H/BERG UTD B	10	0	0	10	0	101 0

WESTERN

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
MELB CROATIA	12	12	0	0	85	6 24
MELTON A	11	8	2	1	38	9 18
GREEN GULLY A	13	8	0	5	50	19 16
SUNSHINE HTS	12	7	1	4	41	22 15
SUNSHINE G.V	13	6	1	5	29	16 14
ALTONA GATE	12	4	1	5	26	20 13
MELB CITY	13	4	2	7	23	28 10
ALTONA CITY	13	4	1	8	23	31 9
ALBION	12	1	0	11	12	40 2
HARTSHORN	11	1	0	10	4	87 2

NORTHERN

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
LALOR UTD	13	13	0	0	98	10 26
NORTHCOE CITY	12	7	2	3	16	10 16
R.U. JUVENUS	14	6	4	4	18	13 16
PRESTON	12	6	3	3	17	17 15
KEON PARK	11	6	1	4	17	11 13
THOMASTOWN A	12	5	3	4	12	7 13
NTH/GLEN/STARK	12	3	4	5	17	20 10
FITZROY EAGLES	12	2	4	6	13	22 4
NTH RESERVOIR	11	2	2	7	16	32 6
H/BERG UTD A	12	1	4	7	5	24 6
REGENT	10	1	0	9	5	33 2

WESTERN

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
ST ALBANS	14	10	3	1	36	8 23
MELB CROATIA	14	10	2	2	37	16 22
ALTONA CITY	15	8	5	2	29	8 21
SUNSHINE HTS	14	7	5	2	29	13 19
SUNSHINE G.V	14	7	3	4	38	19 17
ALBION	14	8	0	6	30	25 16
NTH GEELONG	15	7	2	6	25	24 16
ALTONA GATE	15	5	4	6	24	18 14
SYDENHAM PARK	13	3	2	8	10	26 8
GREEN GULLY	15	2	4	9	8	30 8
MELTON	15	2	1	12	7	52 5
RIPONMEADOWS	14	1	1	12	3	32 3

NTH/WEST B

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
GREEN GULLY	12	10	1	1	34	12 21
NORTHCOE CITY	13	8	4	1	34	18 20
CLIFTON HILL	12	6	2	4	23	19 14
BRADMEADOWS	9	5	2	2	24	12 12
SYDENHAM PARK	12	5	2	5	18	17 12
E/BRUNSWICK/STARK	13	5	1	7	20	24 11
ALTONA CITY	13	4	2	7	18	23 10
KEON PARK	10	3	1	6	18	23 7
N/GLEN/STARKS	12	2	2	8	9	26 6
WEST SUBURBS	12	2	2	8	12	32 6

SUPER/LEAGUE

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
F/STON UTD	15	12	3	0	45	10 27
BULLEEN A	15	12	2	1	34	12 27
NTW RESERVOIR	14	10	1	3	27	17 21
EAST BENTLEIGH	15	9	2	4	44	23 20
SUNSHINE HTS	15	7	2	6	26	19 16
SUNSHINE HTS	13	4	1	6	21	27 11
LALOR UTD	15	5	1	9	19	35 11
LALOR	13	3	4	6	19	23 10
NTW SUNSHINE	14	2	6	6	12	23 10
FOREST HILL	12	2	4	6	15	27 4
NTH GEELONG	15	2	2	11	16	43 6
HITCHAM UTD	14	0	4	10	5	29 4

UNDER 13

EASTERN A

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
BENTLEIGH GREEN	13	9	1	3	49	17 19
MOOROOLBARK	13	8	1	3	45	9 19
DONCASTER ROV	12	8	1	3	45	16 17
CLAYTON	12	8	1	3	40	14 17
BEAUMARIS	13	8	1	4	42	21 17
KNOX CITY HAWKS	13	6	2	5	38	17 14
OAKLEIGH A	13	4	2	5	28	22 12
NORDBALLOCH	12	3	0	9	18	42 6
FOREST HILL	11	3	1	9	5	82 3
CLARINDA	12	1	0	11	5	59 2

EASTERN B

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
LYNDALF UTD A	14	9	3	2	33	18 21
BRANDON PARK	13	8	3	2	41	13 19
SVALE CITY	14	8	3	3	44	19 19
F/STON UTD	13	7	5	1	28	14 19
MURRUMBEI CITY	10	7	3	0	31	7 17
WAVERTLEY CITY	14	5	5	4	25	24 15
KEYSBOROUGH	12	5	1	6	30	20 11
ROSAHNA	13	2	4	7	14	25 8
HITCHAM UTD	13	1	8	10	38	6
BULLEEN	12	1	1	10	4	34 3
MONMURK	12	1	1	10	9	43 3

EASTERN C

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
CHELSEA	10	9	1	0	52	6 19
CRANBOURNE	10	8	1	1	55	7 17
KNOX PARK UTD	10	7	1	2	27	15 15
ST/THAM CRETAN	12	2	5	0	10	20 9
CARRUM UTD	13	4	1	8	20	47 9
ELWOOD	10	3	2	5	16	26 8
FLAMINGO	10	3	2	5	13	33 8
OAKLEIGH B	8	2	1	5	9	20 5
LYNDALF UTD B	10	2	1	7	9	29 5

METRO

P	M	D	L	F	A	PT
CROYDON CITY	10	9	1	0	33	6 19
NTW RESERVOIR	13	8	3	2	30	15 19
BULLEEN	12	6	4	2	29	14 16
STH SVALE	12	6	3	3	16	10 15
DOVETON	12	3	6	3	32	21 12
SVALE UTD	12	3	4	5	17	17 10
STH GANDENWONG	12	3	3	6	12	24 9
ELTHAM	13	3	1	9	17	32 7
SEAFOOD	11	1	4	6	9	26 6</

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY



Now it's up to the Joeys to turn on the style in the Under 17 World Cup!

AUSSIE LINE-UP

WARDLE
MOORE
HEALEY DEE
HAYTHORNWAITE JOSEVSKI
CARBONE (capt) MACOLINO
KALOGERACOS KIRATZOGLOU TRPCEVSKI

THE JOEYS

- ★ Steve Wardle (South Melbourne)
- ★ Joao Pires (West Adelaide)
- ★ Tony Josevski (St George)
- ★ Aaron Healey (South Melbourne)
- ★ Craig Moore (North Star, Queensland)
- ★ Paul Dee (St George)
- ★ Anthony Carbone captain (Perth Italia, now AIS)
- ★ Fabio Macolino (St George)
- ★ Vassilios Kalogeracos (Perth Italia now AIS)
- ★ Alex Kiratzoglou (South Melbourne)
- ★ Vasco Trpceviski (Sunshine)
- ★ Mattheus Coutouvidis (Salisbury United, SA)
- ★ Lorenzo Campagna (St George)
- ★ Tom Haythornwaite (Melita)
- ★ Darren Iocca (Marconi)
- ★ Paulo Agostino (West Adelaide)
- ★ Dominic Usalj (St George)
- ★ Geoff Callanan (Adamstown Rosebuds)

St George, with five players, is the best represented club.

South Melbourne, with three, have the next highest representation.

Aussies' Past Record

CHINA 1985
beat Argentina 1-0
beat Congo 2-1
beat West Germany 1-0 (the eventual winners)
lost to Guinea (eventual fourth placed) 2-4 on penalties after 0-0 in quarter final

CANADA 1987
beat Brazil 1-0
lost France 1-4
beat Saudi Arabia 1-0
lost 0-1 to Nigeria (the eventual runners-up) in quarter final

SCOTLAND 1989
lost to Scotland 0-1
lost to Brazil 1-3
drew with USA 2-2

The team for the Joeys' last appearance in World Cup finals, against the USA was: Schwarzer, Jarvis, Babic, (French) Popovic, Stojceviski, Lees, Hastie, Dihm, Iocopetta, (Aloisi) Suzor Pangallo.
Scorers were Aloisi and Pangallo.

ITALIAN CONTACTS

The Joeys will stay at hotel Ambrosiano in Montecatini Terme.

Fax number for well wishes is Montecatini 772009.

INSPIRED by the sensational performances of the Young Socceroos in Portugal and an excellent preparation, the Joeys are optimistic about their chances in the Under 17 World Cup which kicks off in Italy this weekend.

The Joeys, fresh from a first-class, six-match training camp in Holland, Belgium and Germany, face Mexico in their opening match next Sunday.

Coaches Les Scheinflug and Raul Blanco, never ones to overestimate their chances, are quietly confident this Joey side can emulate, even surpass, the splendid exploits of the Young Socceroos.

It is difficult to rate the Joeys' chances.

Admittedly they have enjoyed tremendous preparation.

A tour of Chile and Argentina late last year where, among many fine results, they downed the Chilean national side twice.

Two of the squad's key players, skipper Carbone and striker Kalogeracos, were

TV

■ SBS Television's popular World Soccer program (Saturdays, 5.30) will feature delayed coverage of all of Australia's games plus the final of the World Under 17 Championship. The time difference between Australia and Italy is eight hours.

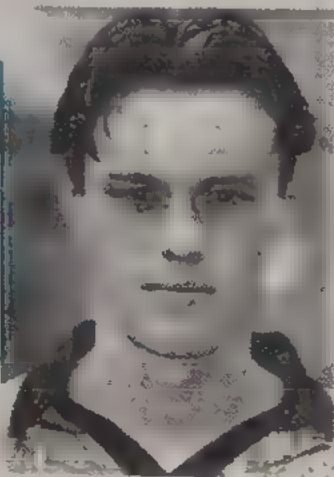
back in South America recently with the AIS.

The Joeys have also enjoyed many training camps in Canberra and, of course, the six-match pre-tournament preparation in Holland.

However, the experimental laws will be a great leveller as will the fact that at this age level there is very little between nations.

On the surface, the Joeys appear to have the softest group - Congo, Qatar and Mexico.

But, as the accompanying history of the Under-17 world titles illustrates, African and Middle Eastern nations have been the best-performed in past world titles.



STEVE WARDLE



FABIO MACOLINO

1st U-17 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ITALY, 16 - 31.8.1991

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Viareggio (Montecatini)	Carrara	Massa	Livorno
Italy	Congo	Sudan	Ghana
USA	Qatar	U.A.E.	Cuba
China PR	Australia	Germany	Uruguay
Argentina	Mexico	Brazil	Spain

1ST ROUND

DATE	MATCH NO	VENUE	HOUR	TEAM	TEAM
FRI 16.8.91	1	MONTECATINI	18.30	A1 Italy	v. A2 USA
SAT 17.8.91	2	VIAREGGIO	21.00	A3 China PR	v. A4 Argentina
	3	CARRARA	21.00	B1 Congo	v. B2 Qatar
	5	MASSA	21.00	C1 Sudan	v. C2 U.A.E.
	7	LIVORNO	21.00	D1 Ghana	v. D2 Cuba
SUN 18.8.91	6	MASSA	19.00	C3 Germany	v. C4 Brazil
	4	CARRARA	21.00	B3 Australia	v. B4 Mexico
	8	LIVORNO	21.00	D3 Uruguay	v. D4 Spain
MON 19.8.91	REST DAY				
TUE 20.8.91	9	VIAREGGIO	17.00	A1 Italy	v. A3 China PR
	10	VIAREGGIO	19.00	A2 USA	v. A4 Argentina
	11	CARRARA	19.00	B1 Congo	v. B3 Australia
	13	MASSA	19.00	C1 Sudan	v. C3 Germany
	15	LIVORNO	19.00	D1 Ghana	v. D3 Uruguay
	12	CARRARA	21.00	B2 Qatar	v. B4 Mexico
	14	MASSA	21.00	C2 U.A.E.	v. C4 Brazil
	16	LIVORNO	21.00	D2 Cuba	v. D4 Spain
WED 21.8.91	REST DAY				
THU 22.8.91	19	CARRARA	17.00	B1 Congo	v. B4 Mexico
	21	MASSA	17.00	C1 Sudan	v. C4 Brazil
	23	LIVORNO	17.00	D1 Ghana	v. D4 Spain
	18	VIAREGGIO	19.00	A2 USA	v. A3 China PR
	20	CARRARA	19.00	B2 Qatar	v. B3 Australia
	22	MASSA	19.00	C2 U.A.E.	v. C3 Germany
	24	LIVORNO	19.00	D2 Cuba	v. D3 Uruguay
	17	VIAREGGIO	21.00	A1 Italy	v. A4 Argentina

2ND ROUND

DATE	MATCH NO	VENUE	HOUR	TEAM	TEAM
FRI 23.8.91	REST DAY				
SUN 25.8.91	25	MONTECATINI	18.00	1 st A	v. 2 nd B
	26	VIAREGGIO	21.00	1 st B	v. 2 nd A
	27	CARRARA	21.00	1 st C	v. 2 nd D
	28	LIVORNO	21.00	1 st D	v. 2 nd C
MON 26.8.91	REST DAY				
TUE 27.8.91	REST DAY				
WED 28.8.91	30	LIVORNO	18.30	w26	v. w28
	29	PISA	21.00	w25	v. w27
THU 29.8.91	REST DAY				
FRI 30.8.91	31	MONTECATINI	18.30	129	v. 130
SAT 31.8.91	32	FLORENCE	21.00	w29	v. w30

HISTORY OF THE UNDER 17 WORLD CUP

RECENTLY retired FIFA referee Chris Bambridge was the man in the middle for the very first Under 17 World Cup final in Beijing, China on August 11, 1985.

Nigeria beat West Germany 2-0 in the final, played in front of 80,000 fans.

African and Middle Eastern representatives, of which the

Joeys meet two (Qatar and Congo) in Italy have enjoyed incredible success at this level.

Nigeria won it in 1985 and were runners-up in 1987.

Guinea finished fourth in 1985 and Ivory Coast third in 1987, while Saudi Arabia were winners in 1989 and tiny Bahrain fourth the same year.

The full honours list for the Under 17 World Cup is:

DATE	LOCATION	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	SCORE	REFEREE	CROWD	THIRD	FOURTH	SCORE	BEST PLAYER	TOP SCORER
11.8.85	BEIJING CHINA	NIGERIA	WEST GERMANY	2-0	BAMBRIDGE (AUSTRALIA)	80,000	BRAZIL	GUINEA	4-1	WILLIAM (BRAZIL)	WITECZEK (GERMANY) 8 GOALS
25.7.87	TORONTO CANADA	USSR	NIGERIA	1-1 (4-2)	WRIGHT (BRAZIL) PENALTIES	15,000	IVORY COAST	ITALY	2-1	OSUNDO (NIGERIA)	TRAORE (IVORY COAST) 5 GOALS
24.6.89	GLASGOW SCOTLAND	SAUDI ARABIA	SCOTLAND	2-2 (5-4)	ESCOBAR (GUATEMALA) PENALTIES	52,000	PORTUGAL	BAHRAIN	3-0	WILL (SCOTLAND)	CAMARA (GUINEA) 3 GOALS

Everybody loves to be a winner!



ning every where.
We had just won 2-1, people were flooding into the room to congratulate us, the players were bubbling over chattering to one another, filled with the excitement, joy and happiness that winning brings.
Probably it was correct that Newcastle did get a surprise as Bruno forecast.
And now we were the ones basking in the warmth that life brings to those who win.
Bruno headed out of the dressing room and gave me one last smile: "How did Naumov go?" he asked.



DARREN STEWART

WINNING and losing is what professional sport is all about.

Winning is the prize and losing is the penalty that comes from daring to try to win.

What a difference in feeling these two bring to us.

If ever I needed reminding of this it came last weekend when my team played Newcastle Austral on the Saturday and Sunday, away and at home.

We were coming off a four game undefeated streak, an achievement in our disappointing season, while Austral had not lost for eight games.

We got hammered 3-0 on the Saturday. What a start for the weekend.

After the game the lads sat in the dressing room, grubby, sweaty, unhappy and nothing to say.

Their recent, growing bubble of self esteem had been well and truly burst.

Seeking to patch it up again I said: "You were playing better than

them after half-time."

Tony Pezzano, ever-willing to speak his mind snorted. . . . "you're joking!"

I ignored that. "You played better than them early in the second half, that second goal killed it . . . what happened there, what caused that gap in the middle of our defence?"

They looked at the floor, Janbek Genc looked at it harder than most, knowing his part in the second goal.

That's how it is after a loss, the whys — why this, what that, why the other.

Austral at least invited us to chips and a bread roll, plus a drink, at their adjacent social club.

Over the chips, which even in my rather sour state, I had to admit were nice and crispy, we were informed by their players that their two team mates, Nick Meredith and Darren Stewart who had missed the game through suspension would play tomorrow.

I sat alone on the bus home, pondering on a possible team for the re-

turn game.

I grumbled away to myself, then reminded myself of the man who complained about having no shoes, but stopped complaining when he saw this man who had no feet.

I arose and moved down the bus and sat down next to Bruno Giaramello.

Bruno is very good at giving himself positive reinforcement.

"Naumov didn't do much did he?" he asked.

I had assigned him to tight-mark Bobby Naumov, a fast front player for Newcastle Astral.

Bruno, in fact, brought him down in the box to concede a penalty and the third goal.

"You did good with Naumov Bruno," I replied, "but you've got to learn from that third goal not to slide tackle people in the box."

"They'll find it a bit different tomorrow at our place," he said, ignoring my complaint.

"That's a big field they play on . . . they'll find it a lot tighter at our field.

"We'll beat them tomorrow".

I was boosted by Bruno's positive words, but could not resist pointing out that they would have Stewart and Meredith back tomorrow — "Stewart's National League and Meredith's Queensland's leading scorer," I said.

I am an Englishman. We often motivate ourselves by stacking up the odds against us. We are supposed to fight well with our backs to the wall.

But Bruno is from Uruguay, he ignored such strange reverse motivation.

It was 4.15pm on the morning, a warm Sunday afternoon.

We were back in the dressing room after the second game against Newcastle, this time at Hajduk Stadium our home ground.

Bruno was smiling up at me from the dressing room bench seat.

"What did I say last week . . . I told you we would surprise them."

His smile widened ever further.

Winners are grinners and people were grin-



TONY PEZZANO

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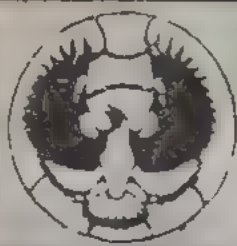
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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Tony Vidmar sets a deadline!



Adelaide City defender Tony Vidmar.

SOCCEROO full-back Tony Vidmar has set himself a deadline of August 27 to get his contract wrangle sorted with City.

That is when Vidmar and team-mate Carl Veart head for Canberra for a preparatory camp for the Olympic Games squad tour of Europe. The Olyroos leave on September 3 and are due to fly back into Australia on September 22.

A squad of 20 is likely to go into camp and that could be pruned by two for the tour.

"I have tried to have a reasonable maximum transfer fee put on my head if an overseas club comes in for me," Vidmar said.

"Talks are going on with City and I hope to have everything settled before I go away. I would like to keep on playing with the club.

We just will have to see how things go."

City has failed to fix up Socceroo Branko Milosevic. He has signed a new two-year deal with Melbourne Croatia.

PORT ADELAIDE has decided to let resigned coach Zoran Maricic leave the club.

"The committee has decided to let Zoran go immediately to pursue his interest elsewhere," a club spokesman said.

"Captain Elvis Dejanovic will take training for the final three weeks of the League season and will be on a selection panel to pick the team." Applicants are called to take over the running of the team for the end of season West End Premier Cup.

"The club could have the option of hav-

ing the successful applicant in charge of the team next season," the spokesman said.

Applications should be directed to secretary Gene Lomman on 49-6090.

Maricic decided to leave the club at the weekend after failing to take Port back to the First Division.

He wants a coaching job in either the Foundation SA League First Division or higher.

SALISBURY United may be forced to sell such outstanding young talent as Joey Matthew Coutouvidis is beat the financial blues.

But the club has made it clear it will provide no easy pickings for rivals.

And plans are well in hand to ease the financial situation and give the Berries a strong platform from which to build for the future —

and the NSL.

"The club does have some financial problems but there will be no worries at all over payment to players," coach Bob Wincer said. "All the problems should be fixed out in the next three weeks.

"Our major sponsor, Direct Hardware, has been a great supporter of the club and we are grateful for their backing.

"But, with the lack of a really major sponsor, we might be forced into a situation where we have to sell players, such as young Matthew Coutouvidis.

"We could see ourselves in a seller's market and recouping our position by buying a cheaper, more experienced player to tide us over for two or three years.

"But we actively are canvassing local businesses and making a big push for the NSL at the next time of asking.

"Things were not right for us to give it a go the last time.

"But we have started to formulate plans for that and have a direct campaign to try to attract the support of local businesses. If successful there we would have no need to look at selling players and we could keep the young talent we are developing."

Salisbury has had no direct approaches yet but it is feasible to suggest such players as Coutouvidis, ace marksman Jeff Tyson and even evergreen defender Neville Flounders could be in the NSL shop window for Adelaide City or West Adelaide.

"The NSL boys, though, can forget about getting players on the cheap," Wincer said. "Gone are the days where they can expect to sell players for the top price they want and then hope to pick up players cheaply for themselves."

Wincer still feels Salisbury can lift the Foundation SA League title though the Berries trail Hellas by a point and on goal differences.

"It is all up to us," he said. "We have to win all our three re-

maining games and, if that is not good enough, so be it.

"But we have lost only one game this year. It has been the club's best season playing wise and we are the equal to anyone in the State League.

"We also have a very strong youth development program."

TENDERS for the improvement work on Hindmarsh have closed and SACON is expected to announce the name of the successful bidder this week.

"Work should begin almost immediately and the changerooms and grandstand changes will be completed by the start of the NSL.

The rest of the work should be ready by November."

The \$490,000 job is the second phase of the Hindmarsh Stadium redevelopment.

ADELAIDE City could pay one of its opening two National Soccer League clashes in SA — at Norwood Oval.

The National Soccer League has called for more information from City on the facilities and conditions at the home of footy favourite, the Redlegs.

But, if they meet most of the criteria on grounds set under the Bradley Report, City could line-up there for either their first or second round match of the new season, which kicks off on October 6.

In a provisional fixture list, compiled by the NSL, City and new boy West Adelaide were drawn away from home in their opening two fixtures because Hindmarsh Stadium is unavailable.

But NSL chief Peter Russell is studying the fixture listings and could pen in City for an earlier home match if Norwood comes up to scratch. Actual fixtures are unlikely to be altered — just venues.

City, too, must rethink plans of playing Marconi in a pre-season friendly on September 22 at Hindmarsh. The pitch at soccer's HQ in SA closes for maintenance and rejuvenation

after the PGH Federation Cup final on Wednesday, September 11.

"It is not scheduled to open again until October 20," SA Soccer Federation chief Tony Farrugia said. "That is why Adelaide City and West Adelaide were to play their first two NSL fixtures this season away from home."

City wanted to play Marconi at Hindmarsh on September 22 and the following weekend in Sydney.

WEST Adelaide is being bombarded with recommendations of new players for the NSL.

But, as with its coaching position, the club is taking a softly, softly approach.

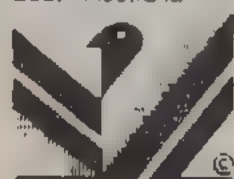
"The sporting panel is in no rush to make a move either on players or the coaching role," PR man Peter Angelos said.

Giant Lion defender Doug Paterson, meanwhile, headed off to the UK last Friday — with trials at Nottingham Forest his first port of call.



Experienced campaigner Neville Flounders.

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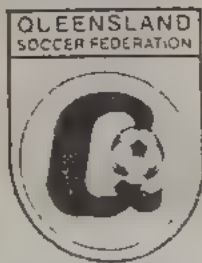


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Darren will be a real dazzler

Newcastle may be a long way from Portugal, but the Coal City has rekindled the enthusiasm of World Youth squad omission Darren Hillier.

The 19-year-old midfielder from Brisbane Lions was among the first seven signings announced by new Breakers coach Bruce Stowell last week and the talented midfielder is approaching his new challenge with all the intensity of a world championship.

"This is my chance to prove a few people wrong," Hillier said.

The teenage Queensland sensation was cut from the Australian squad at the final stage of qualifying round preparations and had to share only on television the joy of his former team-mates finishing fourth.

Naturally given the team's great success, Hillier rates it as the most disappointing event of his illustrious career.

"Things happened in the final selection stages that even now I find difficult to understand," Hillier said. "But I think that the fact that I was from Queensland and not playing regular national league football did not help my chances when the final squad was named."

But the disappointment of missing the youth side has been pushed into the past and Hillier is eagerly looking forward to working his way into the new Breakers team and matching his skills against those who enjoyed the semi-final glory in Portugal.

Hillier is excited about the prospects of joining the new club and has few regrets about leaving Queensland soccer.

"From the moment I began negotiating with Bruce and the Newcastle people, I had the feeling that the club was going somewhere," Hillier said. "There seemed to be an air of quiet confidence and I feel good to be part of that."

"I didn't get that same feeling when I was speaking with the Brisbane United officials. While Newcastle seemed to have everything mapped out, Brisbane United had trouble answering some of my questions about the future."

Hillier's loss is a blow for Brisbane United as the former Institute of Sport team captain is rated by many as one of the best Queensland soccer products since the era that produced Frank Fari-

GREG RUSSELL LOOKS AT THE SUNSHINE STATE

na. Steve Jackson and Danny Wright.

Stowell certainly has no doubts about Hillier's potential. While many of his former Queensland state team charges would have jumped at the chance for a Newcastle contract, Stowell appears to have been quite selective and definite in signing only Hillier at this stage.

"I have watched Darren's progress through the youth ranks in Queensland and I have no doubts that if he applies himself at Newcastle he can put himself in strong contention for first team consideration," Stowell said.

"It was never my intention to attempt to bring a whole lot of Queenslanders to Newcastle, but in Darren I am sure we have got one of the state's best young players."

Hillier was keenly sought by Brisbane United, although the club attempted to downplay his loss when Hillier's move to Newcastle was announced.

Brisbane United coach Miron Bleiberg claimed Hillier was not a key player in his plans for the Brisbane United first team as he did not consider the young midfielder "up to NSL standard at the moment".

Hillier, who has held down a spot in Juan Cutillas' Queensland team this year, was baffled by Bleiberg's comments and angered by resourced newspaper reports which claimed he had accepted Newcastle's offer on a promise of first team football with the Breakers.

"Anyone who has played under Bruce Stowell would know that no-one is promised a shirt, and I am certainly no different," Hillier said.

"Some of the Brisbane United comments just appear to be sour grapes. I'm not concerned if they don't rate me as an NSL player, they are just more people I intend to prove wrong."

Hillier's move into the NSL is an inevitable step in a career which began in unlikely surrounds.

The gifted footballer began playing with Greenbank, an outer suburbs club founded by his father Andy which has never had a team higher than Fourth Division and currently has no senior representation.

But Hillier's ability took him beyond those perimeters and his outstanding form in the junior ranks saw him rise above his age group. After short stints with Lions and Acacia Ridge, Hillier not surprisingly was drafted into the Brisbane South junior representative team which at that stage played in the fixture competition.

Hillier graduated with honors from the talent-improving scheme and jumped at the chance of a scholarship at the AIS.

"The Institute was great," Hillier said. "I felt it matured me as a player."

"I found it easy to adapt because in a lot of ways Ron Smith is similar to Bruce Stowell. Living away from home also has ensured my move to Newcastle will be a lot easier."

The only hitch in Hillier's transfer now appears to be at which stage of the season he will be released by Lions.

As a white form (amateur) player, he is technically linked to the club until the end of October and after the XXXX League grand final. But Hillier is keen to be in Newcastle by early September.

That would mean quitting Lions after the last XXXX League fixture and missing the final play-offs.

"I can understand the club doesn't want to lose a player for the finals, but they must understand my future is not at Richlands anymore. I have been playing for nothing all year and I believe I should be entitled to go when I want to," Hillier said.

"It's going to be disappointing not to contest the finals series because that is what you are playing for all season, but I have to take a longer term view of things."

"I want to be in Newcastle for the start of their pre-season run-in."



DANNY WRIGHT: role model for Darren Hillier.

Coaches just as keen

The high turnover of top coaches in Queensland soccer this season has not daunted those at the grassroots level with another of the highly successful level two course to be run again in October.

The courses have been the breeding ground for some of Queensland's top coaches, although some may argue it is time several committee men

attended to give them some kind of qualification to their persistence in meddling and even those still playing.

But on a serious note, the courses are one of the best avenues to develop a better appreciation and understanding of the game for coaches and even those still playing.

This year's Level Two course will be held at Annerley Juniors Soccer Club from October 5. Leading local coaches

are expected to attend, along with Brisbane and Moreton director of coaching Stewart Holmes.

The course covers two full weekends and three midweek night sessions at a cost of just \$50.

The course is open to those who have completed the Level One certificate, although exceptions can be made for those who have played a premier level.

The October course is

the Part A — Sport Specifics — which covers techniques, group skills and general principles. The Part B — Theory — can be completed at a later date for those who did not take part in the seminars earlier this season.

Those wishing to enrol for this year's Level Two can obtain application forms from the QSF office at Perry Park (Ph: 252-5327) or by contacting Reg Dyer on 372-3239.

AROUND THE NATION

GRAHAM COOKE

OUR MAN IN CANBERRA

AIS get a lesson in Latin

A good international soccer coach never stops scheming.

Even before the dust has settled on the Young Socceroos' superb fourth placing in the World Youth Championships in Portugal, results are already being analysed and trends assessed in an effort to stay one step ahead of the opposition.

In the cut-throat arena that is world soccer, those who take their eyes off the ball are doomed.

Australian Institute of Sport coach Ron Smith summed it up when he cited the example of the United States. "In the championship held in Saudi Arabia two years ago they did very well to finish fourth, but they did not even qualify for Portugal," he said.

"Those who believe that because we did so well this time we are at least semi-finalists in 1993 are kidding themselves. It simply doesn't work that way."

Only one member of the 1991 squad will still be young enough in 1993, so on the surface it appears national youth coach Les Schienflug will be beginning from scratch.

In fact, even while the Young Socceroos were doing so well in Portugal, Smith and his deputies were at work on the playing foundations for the next competition.

Assistant team bosses Steve O'Connor and Tom Sermanni took the AIS squad on a tour of Chile and Argentina, where they were joined by Smith after he had taken in the Portuguese titles with the aim of judging the directions soccer is taking at this level.

"Perhaps the most significant development is that the majority of teams played five in the midfield, and the best always had two excellent ones among them — playmakers who could control the pace of the game and were good at keeping possession," Smith said. "That was the key to Portugal's eventual success."

"Another development is that you have to be quick. I hardly saw a slow player at the tournament — the Argentine had one and he ended up being sent off."

"And if you can't play the short-passing game your days are numbered."

Smith said the AIS, composed of players who will be eligible for the 1993 competition, went to South America to learn and develop football skills — "which is a bit different to going

there with the intention of winning every game."

"The tour highlighted several areas: the need to protect the ball and the speed with which we have to provide support for the player on the ball," he said.

"The first touch of our opponents was really good — they were experts in getting their bodies into positions where you couldn't get a bite of the ball."

The tour began in Buenos Aires with a game against Platense — the result was a goal-less draw. Sermanni said it had been a cold, winter's day on a bumpy pitch with the team still adjusting to its new environment.

The first goal came against Gimnasia Esgrima in a 1-1 draw. The club had been beaten comprehensively in Canberra earlier this year, but this time it fielded a much older team. The AIS scored first through Ice Kutlesovski, but the opposition played patiently and a lapse of concentration presented it with an equaliser.

The Institute got on the winner's board by beating Velez Sarsfield 1-0. "It was the strongest team we had played so far and our goalkeeper, Vince Matassa, kept us in the game in the second half," Sermanni said. "They helped by missing a penalty."

Vince Kalogeracos scored the winner when he chipped the ball over the goalkeeper after a breakaway.

The next game against River Plate produced a 2-2 draw. The home side went ahead with "a cracker of a goal," then the AIS took the lead through Ante Moric and Ante Milicic. "They equalised through a nothing kind of goal — after that the game could have gone either way," Sermanni said.

Chile produced the first loss of the tour, 2-0 to Colo Colo. Smith said the Institute "contributed to its demise" by giving players too much room, and once again Matassa was particularly active. Both Colo Colo goals came in the first half, one scored by Mark Sorrentino in his own net.

A game against Universidad Catolica was rained off, followed by Universidad Chile which was lost 4-1.

"Strangely enough that was one of our better performances and I still believe we were quite capable of winning,"

Smith said. "They went ahead, we equalised through Moric then they went ahead again with a freak goal after 78 minutes after our goalkeeper, Frank Juric, had slipped in the mud."

"After that it was a bit of a bugle charge for our lads as they tried to get the equaliser and a couple of Universidad's World Youth Cup players showed their class when they scored two on the break in the last three minutes."

By this time Danny Stowers, Sorrentino and Kutlesovski were on the injured list, simplifying the selection process for the last game against Wanderers, which was won 2-0. Both goals came in the second half through Milicic and Goran Lozanovski.

"That game was played on a nice pitch in generally favourable conditions and showed how much we had learnt on tour," Smith said. "I would really like to have had the chance of playing Colo Colo again just to judge how much we had improved."

The AIS now begins preparations for the summer National Youth League and Smith expects to keep most of the squad together until the end of the school year "when we will probably be seeing a few changes".



AIS assistant coach Steve O'Connor in his playing days.

ACT to re-organise

FROM
GRAHAM COOKE

A complete re-organisation of the club system in ACT soccer is one of the fundamental recommendations of the Neame report into the code.

If accepted it will mean the end of the semi-social one-or-two-team outfits which currently play in the lower divisions of the ACT League.

They will have to amalgamate with up to 10 super-clubs which will form the basis of the competition as it heads through the decade and into the 21st Century.

These clubs, called "major clubs" in the report, will have defined geographic areas in which to operate. They

will be responsible for the development of junior soccer in their areas with the aim of providing youngsters with a clear career path from mini-soccer to seniors.

While recognising their special circumstances, the report signals an end to the role of the four institutional clubs at the highest level of ACT competition. University of Canberra currently plays in the First Division while ANU and the Australian Defence Academy have appeared in the top flight during the last decade — the recommendation is they play no higher than the Second Division.

On the administrative side the report advocates a replacement of the ACTSF's committee system with a six-person board of directors, incorporating

both the senior and junior leagues. Each director would be responsible for a portfolio and Neame suggest they need not all come from within the existing soccer community.

One of the aims of the revamped federation will be to point Canberra soccer in the direction of a Quit National League franchise, and the report suggests a corporate structure for such an entity with the federation itself, its member clubs, and private individuals as shareholders.

The report skirts the issue of Canberra Metros' continuing membership of the NSW League, but at the launch, ACTSF president Ron Watkins repeated that the federation has no objection to the Metros continuing to play in that competition.

"We certainly want to improve the strength of our own local league and I admit that would happen if the Metros' players moved into it," he said. "However, that could only come about after consultation."

"The Metros are doing an excellent job in the NSW League and they are there with the support of the federation."

"Their continuation there is not just a matter for us. The NSW League's own program will have a bearing."

Watkins said the next stage will involve consultation with the clubs before moving on to the implementation of the report's recommendations.

"It would be fair to indicate that the seventh non-institutional clubs currently in the First Division will be in

the running for positions as major clubs under the report, but we would be expecting them to make proposals if they consider filling those roles," Watkins said.

"The quality of administration of these clubs is such that they could make such proposals."

"I cannot make an accurate prediction on a time frame for this — that will be a matter for the clubs, but we will be moving as quickly as possible."

Title ACT Soccer — Future Directions, the report was launched by the Minister for Sport, Wayne Berry, at the Legislative Assembly building. The work of sports consultant Barry Neame, it was commissioned by the ACTSF and funded jointly by the federation and the ACT Government.

AROUND THE NATION

Nice and steady

BY GREG BLAKE

THE concept of finals deciding the Victorian Premier League championship for the first time has been greeted with caution by club coaches.

Although the general opinion is that commercially the finals series will be a big winner for the Premier League, most believe it goes against the grain of the tradition of the game.

A final five series, identical to the play-off system utilised by the NSL, is likely to become a reality for the Premier League in 1992.

The Victorian Soccer Federation Board of Management recently approved the change, but the dramatic change cannot be introduced until voted on by all VSF member clubs at the next AGM.

It will be the first time in 33 years of Federation history that the Victorian title will have been decided by anything other than the traditional first-past-the-post system.

Croydon City coach Ian Dobson, who has recently been re-appointed to that position for the next two years, knows the value of the top five system.

Dobson was at the heart of the Preston Makedonia defence when that club charged from fifth on the ladder into the 1985 Southern Division NSL grand final against Juventus.

From the point of view of interest, he sees the finals as a winner.

"It'll certainly stop the traditional end-of-season games where teams have nothing to play for", Dobson said recently.

"It keeps the pressure on until the end of the season and that makes for interest for spectators and players."

"In that way it's a good idea."

"But even though it works well for the spec-



Croydon City coach Ian Dobson

tators, I've got to say that I'm a traditionalist and in my mind, if you win the league, you win the league."

"But I can acknowledge that it is an Australian way of life."

Morwell's Bobby McLachlan is outspoken against the concept, but admitted he hadn't really contemplated the idea of a Premier League grand final.

"I suppose it is what you are conditioned to really", he told ABSW.

"To me Juventus deserves to win this year's title for what they've done over the season."

"You win the

championship because you are better than anyone else."

"It seems a wee bit crazy that you can work hard for 26 weeks and then, in the space of three weeks, you can go under."

McLachlan is cynical of the motives behind the introduction of the finals to Victoria, believing the money-spinning aspect was a key to making the choice.

"If you want a top four system, make it as a separate competition", he says.

"I don't think you can be considered champions over three or four games but to pit the best teams against each other is acceptable in a separate competition."

McLachlan says the only value of the finals system is in the promotional aspect of the series.

"But I'm against it", he says.

"No one is right or wrong and in the end it's a matter of if the people want it, then that's may-

be the way we should go."

Bulleen boss Andy Bozidakas, himself a grand final winner with Heidelberg in 1980, is all for the idea.

Even though, according to him, first past the post deserves the champions tag.

"The thing with the top five series is that the in-form team at the time always benefits", he explained.

"But it is a good thing in terms of interest and it certainly brings in the crowds."

"There is more interest in the top five, there is certainly support for it and, usually, the top two teams end up fighting it out (in the grand final)."

"Yes, I go along with it."

Although all VSF member clubs will vote on the change, only the Premier League will be affected next season, with championship standings still deciding the promotion and relegation issues down through the lower leagues.

— GRAHAM COOKE
The Canberra Metro board of directors made the right decision for the wrong reason when it cancelled the NSW League game with Avala.

In doing so it insisted its motives were philosophical — it did not believe as a mainly Croatian supported club it should be playing games with a Serbian-backed team when the two communities were at each other's throats in Yugoslavia.

By taking this tack the Metros will leave themselves exposed to the argument they are playing European politics on Australian soil; that they are replicating old hatreds and prejudices which have no place in the country and they are enforcing the general view of soccer as an un-Australian activity.

That is something which the administrators of the game, locked firmly into the Bradley Report, do not want to hear.

It is likely Canberra will be punished just as much for introducing it as for disrupting the NSW League's program.

And yet, given the possibilities arising from this game, it is clearly correct that it did not go ahead.

The Metros, and the ACT police, were kidding themselves if they believed they could have guaranteed the safety of spectators. The facts are that the rising tide of violence in Yugoslavia is spilling into Australia; reports indicate that shots, thankfully without casualties, have already been fired in this country. As is often the case in these affairs, events happen too quickly to be clearly assessed. What seems reasonable on one day is out of the question the next.

All indications are that there would have been a crowd of around 2000 at the game, including a large minority of Avala supporters. At that number the areas set aside to segregate the fans would have been over-flowing,

leaving the options of shutting the gates and transferring the problem to surrounding streets or allowing spectators to move round the ground into the practice pitch area which would have provided an almost purpose-built battle field.

And there is another, even more sinister factor. With the best will in the world, Deakin Oval is not Heathrow Airport; it would have needed just one nut-case with a Rambo delusion and a smuggled firearm for mayhem to have resulted.

Metro president Frank Crnkovic has often spoken of the difficulties of communicating the depth of feelings of people who have lived in Yugoslavia. Having experienced the divide in Northern Ireland I know this type of passion can never be underestimated.

I, for one, am happy there is now no possibility that the first Australian casualties in this tragic civil war will occur on a Canberra sports ground.

The Ampol Cup is on the way to a new home

QUEENSLAND'S Ampol Cup trophy, the reward for the victors in the state's premier knockout competition, is heading to new surrounds.

Neither finalist in this Sunday's Perry Park clash — Mount Gravatt or Rochedale — have won the prized trophy before.

The Mount Gravatt Hawks have come close a number of times but the final represents Rochedale's first crack at a major piece of Queensland soccer silverware.

While knockout football is always unpredictable, and cup finals ever more so, Rochedale will go into the Perry Park match as the favourites.

Rovers have been among the pacesetters in the XXXX League this season and swept into the final in convincing fashion a fortnight ago.

John Stewart's green machine torpedoed Taringa's Cup hopes with a 4-2 semi-final win. Irishmen Paddy Dillon

and Noel Greenhalgh figured in three of the goals with Lee Howells, another of Rovers' ex-City squad, netting the other.

Taringa battled gamely with the Cranney brothers Sean and Troy, both scoring, but the Speare Park side lacked the big game experience of Rochedale to cause an upset.

Mount Gravatt proved giantkillers when they won their semi-final 2-1 against the inconsistent Croatia.

Hawks' favourite son Cameron Bell and former Taringa Rover Jarrod Austin were the heroes while the reliable Kevin Meacock netted for Croatia.

If XXXX League form is an indication, Rochedale will go into Sunday's final at almost unbackable odds after their easy win over Mount Gravatt at Dittmer Park in a Saturday night league fixture a week ago.

Rochedale hardly raised a sweat as they cruised to a 4-1 victory with only the Hawk's state keeper Stu Woodruffe preventing a massacre.

The game was most notable for a behind the play clash between Mount Gravatt forward David Munn and Greenhalgh, which left the Irishman on the ground.

The incident was unseen by any official and resulted only in a card for Munn, but the danger looms of the score being settled in the cup final.

Greenhalgh is far too experienced to be goaded into any rash action but the entire Mount Gravatt forward line is likely to receive some score-settling tackle from the Rochedale backs.

While a cup win represents a season salvation for the mid-table Hawks, the cup could be the first in a treble for Rochedale.

Rovers are still battling for Lions in the premiership, although time appears to be running out for them to bridge the handy lead Lions have opened in the past month. Rochedale also must be fancied to win their way through to their first grand final since their replay effort in the second division six years ago.

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JUNIOR JOTTINGS

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP

Newcastle's Merewether High were one of the most famous names in the early days of the Commonwealth Bank Cup, then known as the Tasman Cup.

Under their former name of Newcastle Tech High, they reached the final three times in 1968, 1972 and 1973 and won the lot. However, since the change of name the school has not met with the same success — only winning Hunter Region on one occasion in 1983. This has all changed this year. Merewether reached the regional final by defeating amongst others Waratah 12-0 and perennial champions Whitebridge 2-0. In a hard fought final against Taree, striker Andrew Krause scored a hat-trick as the team triumphed 5-1. This brought Andrew's tally of goals to eight in winning the region.

Cromer from Metropolitan North were the next opponents, to see which school progressed to the Quarter Finals. Cromer's renowned defence, led by Andrew Riches, had not conceded more than a single goal in winning their region, yet were unable to prevent Merewether continuing on their winning way, courtesy of a 3-0 victory. Jon Brady starred for Merewether scoring twice and Andrew Krause got his usual goal.

Teamwork is the key note of Merewether's success, with five members of the team coming from the strong Adamstown Rosebuds Club and another five from Newcastle Olympic. The combination built up with these two clubs and through years of junior representation have forged a team, which reached the Quarter Finals of the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup three years ago and have now progressed to a similar stage in the Senior Competition, where they will be opposed to Orara High of Coffs Harbour.

Fairfield High have always done quite well in Metropolitan South West Region, usually reaching at least Rounds Three or Four but it is only over the past three years that they have begun to dominate the region.

In 1989 after winning the region they progressed to the State Semi-Final, where they lost to Drummoyne and last year they lost a hard fought Regional Final to local rivals Fairvale 1-0.

This year the team has been unbeaten since the word go. In fourteen games, both Grade and Knockout — all wins, the team has scored 78 goals and just conceded seven.

Three of those goals came in the Regional Final against Westfields, when the team showed real character to recover from a 2-0 deficit to win a nailbiting penalty shootout.

Round six saw Fairfield opposed to the Central Coast's Umina High, at home, in front of 800 widely enthusiastic spectators. Fairfield started at a blistering pace and went ahead after only five minutes, when Jimmy Leventis beat the offside trap to open the scoring. This appeared to unsettle the visitors initially, but, as the half progressed they began to dominate in midfield but couldn't find a way through the Fairfield defence, led by Andrew Cartman. The locals led 1-0 at the break.

In the second half Fairfield began to take control of midfield, spreading the ball wide and opening up the Umina defence. With ten minutes remaining the pressure paid off, with substitute Jose Reano playing a neat one-two with Andrea Monge to slot home the second Fairfield goal.

The remaining minutes saw Fairfield totally rampant, missing another four chances at point blank range as well as the Umina keeper making some great saves. Best for Fairfield in the 2-0 win were Dominic Timpano and captain Nikola Glavan.

The squad boasts Australian Under 17 representatives Darren Iocca, Rodrigo Pena, newly arrived from Chile, where he played with the youth team of the famous Colo-Colo Club, CHS representative Andrew Cartman and three youth league players — Andreas Monge, Alberto Mateos and Nikola Glavan. Coach Jim Psaredellis is proud of his team's achievements, due to their unique blend of his team's skill, Italian flair and Aussie guts.

Their opponent in the Quarter Finals will be Smith's Hill of Wollongong, who defeated Lake Illawarra 3-0 in the South Coast Final, played last week at Brandon Park. Smith's Hill star player and current Wollongong Wolves representative Sasho Dimovski scored twice from the penalty spot, whilst the other goal was well taken by Chris Necovski. To reach the final Smith's Hill accounted for Warrawong 3-1, Wollongong 2-1, traditionally strong Keira 2-1 and surprise team Queanbeyan 1-0.

This is the furthest the school has progressed in the Competition in the seven years since becoming co-educational.



ACT kid's first rep taste

The ACT under-13 squad tasted success in the first of its official representative games of the season, beating Southern Tablelands 5-0 at Latham Oval.

Coach Bernie Lustica said the team would not be going away to the national championship this season. "It's in Cairns and the cost is \$500 a player — there just hasn't been time to get the money together," he said.

Instead, a representative program has

been arranged with the Southern Tablelands game being followed with a fixture against Western NSW, also at Latham, on August 18.

Lustica still has between 40 and 50 players turning up for training, enough for three separate matches against Western NSW, which will be played at 10am, 11.10am and 1pm.

"After that, I will probably reduce the squad to about 18 and we will be arranging

games with Newcastle and districts of Sydney at the end of the season," he said.

"The boys realise that if they stick at it they will form the basis of next year's under-14 squad which will be going away."

ACT scorers against the Tablelands were Lee Pietrusowski (Bel-north) 2, Joe Simunic (Canberra Croatia), Scott Manson (Bel-north) and Dion Cannell (Tuggeranong United).



Bidungu Primary School

COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL TURNER CUP

All area winners have now been decided in the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup competition.

A couple of finals had to be held over into third term when co-ordinators were not able to schedule matches because of weather.

Thanks to the generosity of the Commonwealth Bank every winning player, coach and school receives a gold medal while the

runners-up receive a silver medal.

These Area medals are a little smaller than the ultimate competition winners, finalists and third and fourth placegetters' medals.

There have been two types of presentation ceremonies. Following some area finals, bank officials have then presented the medals while others have seen bank officials attend school assemblies to make the presentations.

Area Winners and Finalists

1. Kepnock (Bundaberg) 3 d. Wynnum 2
2. Shailer Park 2 d. Redbank Plains 1
3. Kadina, Lismore 1 d. Catherine McAuley, Grafton 0
4. Taree 3 d. Bellingen 1
5. ★ Oxley, Tamworth 2 d. Maitland 0
6. ★ Whitebridge 3 d. Merewether 1
7. Cardiff 1 d. Woy Woy 0
8. ★ St Dominics, Penrith 3 d. Rootey Hill 1
9. Homebush 1 d. Merrylands 0
10. Holy Cross, Ryde 4 d. Davidson 1
11. Hurstville 4 d. James Cook, Kogarah 2
12. Westfields 1 d. Ambavale 0
13. Daramalan (ACT) 5 d. St Spyridon, Maroubra 0
14. Kelso, Bathurst 3 d. Canobolas, Orange 0
15. Griffiths 6 d. St Michaels, Wagga 0
16. Keira 5 d. Figtree 0

★ These three schools also won their Area final in 1990.



Well held son!

Despite a heavy season, Macquarie Field, Speers Point is looking in top class condition and club officials are confident it will be well prepared for the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup semi-finals and final listed for

September 3 and 4.

As the Northern NSW State First Division grand final will be played there shortly afterwards the groundmen will be working overtime to ensure a top class surface.

Daramalan Catholic College in Dixon, ACT is steeped in a tradition of Rugby Union. However, the soccer boys are making a big impression this year.

To date in the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup competition their wins have been pretty comprehensive. They have defeated Kambah 7-1, Belconnen 4-1, Canberra 3-1 (a particularly sound result) St

Edmunds 3-1 (St Edmunds is another ACT school with a strong Rugby tradition) and St Spyridon 5-0.

Word from the nation's capital predicts they will be too strong for Bathurst's Kelso High and should go through to Newcastle. However, Griffiths and Keira, one of whom will be their next encounter, should they down Kelso, will probably have plenty to say about that.

Big Luis now in Mexico

ARGENTINE Cesar Luis Menotti, who coached his country to a World Cup soccer triumph in 1978, has taken charge of the Mexican national team.

"Menotti is directly responsible for all national selections for Mexico and will have to travel to Havana, Cuba, to observe the performance of the Mexican team taking part in the Pan-American Games", said Francisco Ibarra, the federation's president.

Ibarra said Menotti's first challenge will be to take Mexico through the qualifying rounds to the World Cup, which the Argentine coach recently said he aimed to win with the Mexican team.

Meanwhile, journalistic sources from Mexico stated that negotiations between Menotti and Mexican officials failed because Menotti's pretensions were too high.

Apparently the Argentine had demanded 1.8 million dollars for a



Luis Menotti with ABSW writer Mario Etchart

three year contract.

The same sources also mentioned that Mexican officials approached Argentine club coach Jose Omar Pastoriza, while another Mexican coach, Jorge Viera, who guided

local club America to win two national leagues, announced he was interested in coaching the national team but... "not for the money".

According to the sources — since then — Me-

notti had reduced his demands considerably.

Menotti's last job as coach was with Uruguay, a big gun Penarol, from which he resigned last April after a very poor season.

A Carlos change!

CARLOS Navarro Montoya, the Boca Juniors goalkeeper who is arguably the best in the Argentine national championship, took out Argentine nationality in the hope that he can play for that country in the next World Cup.

But Navarro Montoya, a Colombian, played twice in two of the country's qualifying matches for the 1986 World Cup.

Montoya asked FIFA to clear him to be able to pay for Argentina

Flamboyant Colombian goalkeeper Rene Higuita signed for Spanish club Real Valladolid. Valladolid is coached by his compatriot and ex-Colombian national coach Francisco Maturana.

Brazilian journalists who appeared the most numerous (and certainly the most rowdy), were banned from the after-match conferences by their own country's coach, Falcao, following the preliminary round defeat against Colombia in the last Copa America, because they picked fights with coach and players and turned press conferences into a slanging match.

Hector "Bambino" Viera will coach Velez Sarsfield in his native Argentina next season after a stint in the Spanish national league.

Viera took River Plate of Argentina to its first Libertadores Cup win and the Toyota Cup in the same year.

Osvaldo Escudero, the winger who won the Youth World Cup with Argentina in 1979 in Tokyo and is now 30 years old, returned to Japan to sign for Mitsubishi.



RENE HIGUITA

Independiente Petrolero leads the Bolivian soccer league group B despite its 2-1 defeat to Blooming.

In group A, Bolivar of La Paz and Oriente Petrolero of Santa Cruz share the lead after their respective 2-0 and 3-1 victories over Orcobol (Cochabamba) and San Jose (Oruro).

Newcomer Coquimbo Unido, the surprise of the Chilean national soccer league, lead the competition after nine games.

The team from the North maintained its unbeaten record with a dramatic 4-4 draw with Santiago Wanderers in Valparaiso.

The match, played at Wanderers' Playa Ancha Stadium, attracted more than 25,000 spectators.

Meanwhile, Libertadores champions Colo Colo, lost 2-0 away

against Cobreloa while Universidad Catolica, under the guidance of new coach Vicente Cantatore, defeated Everton 3-0.

Coquimbo Unido leads with 16 points, followed by Antofagasta with 14, Universidad Catolica with 12, Concepcion 10, and Colo Colo, O'Higgins and Deportes La Serena with 9 points each.

Argentine striker Ramon Diaz, on his return to his native country, signed for his ex-club River Plate after nine years playing in Europe.

Diaz signed for one year and will make his debut in a four team tournament to be held in Italy. River will play against Cagliari, Ascoli and Penarol of Uruguay.

River is also interested in signing Uruguayan star Enzo Francescoli.

Argentine birthday

THIS is the 60th year of professional football in Argentina. The first championship in 1931 had 18 clubs and was won by Boca Juniors. All 18 still exist, and 13 of them are in the current First Division — Boca Juniors, River Plate, Independiente, Racing Club, San Lorenzo, Estudiantes de la Plata, Platense, Velez Sarsfield, Huracan, Lanus

Ferro Carril Oeste, Argentinos Juniors and Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata.

Only four (River Plate, Boca Juniors, Independiente and Velez Sarsfield) have never been relegated.

Other statistics: Most championships — River Plate 18 (not including national championships before merging with the First Division).

Most appearances: Hugo Gatti (goalkeeper)

with 765. Most appearances for one club: Ricardo Bochini (midfielder) with 638 for Independiente.

Most goals scored: Arsenio Enrico, a Paraguayan striker with 293 for Independiente.

Goalkeepers who stopped most penalties: Hugo Gatti and Ubaldo Fillol with 26 each.

Longest unbeaten run: Racing Club with 39 matches (1965-66).

Goalkeeper with longest unbeaten run: Carlos Barisio (Ferro Carril Oeste) with 1075 minutes, almost 12 matches, in 1981.

Most successive wins: San Lorenzo de Almagro with 11 (twice, 1935 and 1941).

Player to win most championships: Angel Labruna (River Plate) with 9.

Diego

DIEGO Maradona scored a hat-trick but still ended up a loser when he played his first full match since he was banned from the professional game for failing a dope test.

Maradona, whose presence attracted a 20,000 capacity crowd, shone in a team made up largely of actors. But they lost the charity match 5-4 to a side of former footballers.

The ex-Napoli captain said: "I'm going to dedicate myself completely to five-man indoor soccer. I'm going to play some matches here in Buenos Aires and then I plan to go on a tour in the provinces".

Another worry

THE Brazilian soccer authorities have hit another problem.

They are having difficulty in getting their players to sing...

All players picked for the national side now have to sign a strict code of conduct imposed by the Brazilian Sports Confederation (CBS).

One of the new rules is that all players MUST sing the national anthem before the matches start.

But according to CBD official Jorge Salgado, there is a snag...

Although the players

have been supplied with song sheets, says Salgado, many of them have difficulty in remembering the words.

Other points in the code of conduct are: Players must accept payment and bonuses without argument, and must not criticise officials.

They have to go to bed at 11pm and get up at 7am, and must use official clothing for training and travelling.

And relations and agents are not allowed to enter the team's training camp.

SOLICITORS

Our firm specialises in all legal matters involving the soccer code, and including:

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- Clubs being cited for bringing the game into disrepute
- Appearing before the Tribunals and Committees of the State and National Leagues
- Other general matters; (Criminal/Family/Compensation/Conveyancing)

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Copa America comment



CLAUDIO CANIGGIA

★ **FALCAO**: "I have no intention of resigning and I want to continue until the World Cup if possible."

Famous last words? ... a Brazilian official was heard to say before the final round started that Falcao was out what-

ever Brazil's final position in the tournament.

★ **CLAUDIO CANIGGIA** (Argentine striker): Bilardo (last year's national coach) was a dictator... During training sessions he got angry if we put our hands on our waist or looked anywhere else... he insisted that we should all be obsessed with soccer, like him.

"Under Basile (the current coach) we have much more freedom. We can all give our points of view and don't have to spend hours watching videos of matches. Basile isn't obsessed as bilardo was. Bilardo was in Chile, for the last Copa America as a TV commentator."

Trevor Francis is now a new convert!

FROM OUR MAN IN NEW YORK MICHELANGELO RUCCI

ADD Trevor Francis to the list of fine soccer judges who have changed their verdict on the abilities of the US national team.

Francis brought his English League Cup champions Sheffield Wednesday into Veterans Stadium two weeks ago and left with a 2-0 loss to Bora Milutinovic's Yankees and a very different impression of how Team USA will fare in the World Cup here in 1994.

Francis had watched all of the USA's three World Cup matches in Florence and Rome last year when it was beaten by Austria, Czechoslovakia and Italy. He knew the Americans had potential after watching them hold Italy to 1-0 in the Olympic Stadium.

Now Francis sees more than potential in the Americans. He says

they have replaced potential with productivity, which has seen the US string together six consecutive wins, claim the CONCACAF Gold Cup and remain unbeaten in nine matches. Since Milutinovic took over in May, the US has put together a 7-1-3 win-loss-draw record against teams such as Uruguay, Argentina, Ireland, Mexico, Costa Rica, Juventus and AC Milan.

"This American team would be a difficult proposition for anyone," Francis concluded. "They're dedicated and they're very athletic. When you have that, and the commitment they had against us, it's hard to beat. There has been a big improvement.

"The coach has done well."

Sheffield Wednesday director Cliff Woodward also was surprised and impressed with Milutinovic's warriors.

"I thought they were

very good," he said. "They don't panic. They have a lot of patience. We were playing on a surface (artificial) that we weren't used to, but they were better than us. I didn't see any real weakness."

Even John Harkes, the first American to wear a cup winner's medal at Wembley, was wondering who these Yankees he chose to play against rather than with were.

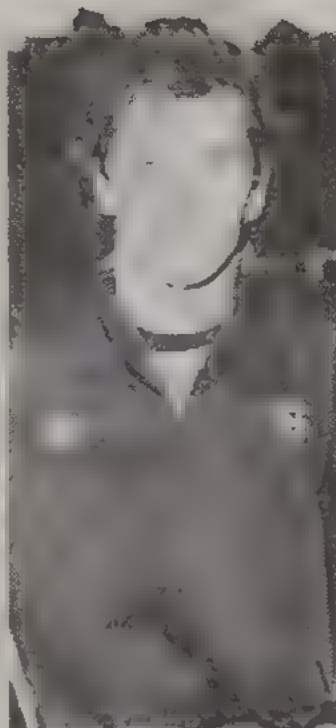
Harkes, a midfielder in the US World Cup squad, not only had trouble working out who was playing for the US but how it was playing.

Only six of the 16 in Milutinovic's squad — including five in the starting line-up — played at the World Cup, highlighting the dramatic transformation the US has made under Milutinovic.

"It was like 'Who's that? Where did he come from?'" Harkes said, wondering about all this magic Milutinovic is renowned for after taking Mexico to the quarter-finals of the 1986 World Cup and tiny Costa Rica to the second round in Italy.

"They were a lot more confident with the ball. They have come farther than I expected. Before, they just played across the back. They came out and wanted to play."

Milutinovic is not becoming carried away



TREVOR FRANCIS

with the swallows flying here this summer when the World Cup is still three summers away.

"This is one game," he said. "It is good we win. Hopefully, we win again."

The impact on the US of this winning soccer team is obvious.

Americans want to see goals after being bored by the 1990 World Cup. The US team has scored two goals or more four times in its past five matches.

And the crowds are coming. There were 44,261 at Veterans Stadium — the sixth largest to see the US national team in action.

There's reason to change all those stereotype impressions of American soccer.

tiac, near Detroit, hopes to have matches through to the quarter-finals inside its Silverdome.

All three venues would need to keep the real grass green for maybe 30 days.

"Not a problem," says Millay. "Basically, you can think of the domed stadiums as giant greenhouses. With the right grass, the right light, the right fertilizers and the right care, we can have a beautiful field for them."

Milberger expects the success of real grass in indoor stadiums during the 1994 World Cup will lead to the trend exploding in Europe.

"This is just the tip of the iceberg," he said. "You'll find more domed stadiums in the country looking into it and in Europe, where soccer is tremendously popular, they're thinking of building domes now."

A US kick in the grass

VETERANS Stadium in Philadelphia, home of the Phillies baseball team and Eagles football club and an artificial pitch, wants to host World Cup matches in 1994.

To do so it has to put real grass over its plastic grass.

Not a real problem for a stadium that is open to fresh air and sunlight.

But in New Orleans, Houston and Pontiac, the dream of having World Cup matches played indoors for the first time presents a challenge in getting real grass to grow on top of plastic.

This week, the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans saw the results of a \$A130,000 experiment to grow the real thing over the plastic stuff.

After three weeks of nurturing, the grass is green but not as green as the fake stuff. Still, officials at the Louisiana Superdome think it is good enough for the world's best soccer players. Now they have to convince FIFA.

"It'll work. No doubt about that," said Art Milberger, the man who supplied the real grass from his Texas farm. "You can have a real grass field in those domes."

"This was the first time I was asked to grow grass in the dark and on concrete."

But is it worth the cost? And will the grass survive the stress of World Cup matches?

Milberger says yes to both questions and maintains there is the technology to support the transplanted grass in a hostile environment of no fresh air or sunlight.

"Everyone knows that without light, after seven to 10 days, green grass will be brown grass," Milberger said. "In these domes, there is no sun at all but by using special, high-pressure sodium lights, the grass will be fine after 22 days."

Mike Millay, executive director of the New Orleans Sports Foundation which runs the Louisiana Superdome, says it would cost no more than \$A1.3 million to keep real grass growing in his indoor stadium. He says such a cost can be justified when the World Cup is expected to generate \$A200 million at the 12 venues chosen in December for its 52-match schedule.

New Orleans wants the World Cup to stay in its Superdome until the semi-finals. Houston wants to play three first-round matches and one second-round match in its Astrodome and Pon-

Latest overseas results & tables

FRANCE

Monaco 1 Lyon 0, Nancy 1 Metz 3, Le Havre 0 Rennes 0, Nantes 2 Caen 1, Auxerre 0 Nimes 0, Cannes 1 Lille 1, Lens 1 Sochaux 1, St Etienne 2 Toulouse 1, Montpellier 1 Toulon 0, Marseille 0 Paris St Germain 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaco	5	5	0	0	14	4	10
Metz	5	4	0	1	12	4	8
Marseille	5	3	2	0	6	8	8
Nantes	5	3	1	1	6	3	7
Le Havre	5	1	3	1	3	1	7
St Etienne	5	3	0	2	8	4	6
Auxerre	5	2	2	1	5	3	6
Lille	5	2	2	1	5	4	6
Lens	5	2	2	1	4	3	6
Caen	5	2	2	1	3	2	6
Paris St Germain	5	0	5	0	3	3	5
Lyon	5	1	2	2	2	3	4
Sochaux	5	1	2	2	5	7	4
Toulouse	5	1	2	2	5	9	4
Cannes	5	1	1	3	4	5	3
Nancy	5	1	1	3	4	8	3
Nimes	5	0	3	2	3	8	3
Montpellier	5	1	1	3	3	8	3
Rennes	5	0	1	4	3	9	1
Toulon	5	0	0	5	1	8	0

GERMANY

Bayern Munich 1 Hansa Rostock 2, Cologne 0 Stuttgart Kickers 0, Eintracht Frankfurt 5 Schalke 0, VfB Stuttgart 1 Karlsruhe 0, Borussia Dortmund 2 Werder Bremen 1, Nuremberg 3 Fortuna Duesseldorf 1, Kaiserslautern 1 Bochum 1, Wattenscheid 3 Bayer Leverkusen 0, Borussia Moenchengladbach 0 Duisburg 0, Hamburg 2 Dynamo Dresden 0.

SWITZERLAND

St Gallen 1 Wettingen 0, FC Zurich 1 Lausanne 1, Servette 0 Sion 2, Aarau 2 Lucerne 0, Lugano 2 Grasshopper 2, Neuchatel Xamax 3 Young Boys 0.

Lausanne	5	4	1	0	12	2	9
Sion	5	4	1	0	9	2	9
Grasshopper	5	3	1	1	9	6	7
Lucerne	5	3	0	2	7	5	6
Aarau	5	2	1	2	7	9	5
Neuchatel	5	2	0	3	8	5	4
Young Boys	5	2	0	3	9	8	4
Wettingen	5	1	2	2	6	7	4
FC Zurich	5	1	2	2	5	5	4
Servette	5	1	1	3	3	5	3
Lugano	5	1	1	3	6	15	3
St Gallen	5	1	0	4	1	12	2

YUGOSLAVIA

Rad Belgrade 3 Sarajevo 0, Borac Banjaluka 0 Pelister Bitolj 0 (borac won 5-4 on penalties), Proleter Zrenjanin 0 Spartak Subotica 0, OFK Belgrade 5 Velez Mostar 1, Zemun 3 Zeljeznicar Sarajevo 1, Radnicki Nis 4 Sloboda Tuzla 1, Vojvodina Novi Sad 2 Buducnost Titograd 1.



BUSBY MATCH

Manchester United legend Sir Matt Busby cashed in on Sunday as 35,410 fans turned up for his testimonial match.

Busby, who was on 15 pounds a week when he became United's boss in 1945, will collect around Stg250,000 (\$A546,800) thanks to the English giants' 1-1 draw with the Republic of Ireland.

The Republic tookt he lead with a 41st minute own goal from United's new defender, Paul Parker, but skipper Bryan Robson equalised with a diving header in the 75th minute.

OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

Syria beat India 1-0 in an Asian Group B pre-Olympic soccer tournament.

FRIENDLY IN ATHENS

OLYMPIC STADIUM

Panathinaikos 5 Sth Melb Hellas 1



A jubilant Darko Pancev

NO, NO NAPOLI



Napoli's Brazilian ace Careca

NAPOLI have discovered that, without Diego Maradona, even cut-price tickets have little appeal.



The 1989/90 Italian champions, deprived of the banned Argentine captain, have found their fans are definitely not rushing to buy season tickets for the 1991-92 First Division championship which starts on September 1.

With Maradona on their books last year, they sold nearly 42,000 season tickets at their 80,000-capacity San Paolo Stadium.

This season, despite signing ace French international sweeper Laurent Blanc to join

established Brazilians Careca and Alemao and despite reducing prices in some parts of the stadium, they have sold just 13,000 season tickets to date.

The situation has become so grave that club boss Corrado Ferlaino has ordered consultations with the fans.

While Napoli's takings amount to a "paltry" \$6.4 million, other clubs have fared better.

AC Milan, despite the setback of a year's ban from European soccer and the loss of double European Cup-winning coach Arrigo Sacchi, have sold 54,000 season tickets so far worth a staggering total of \$30 million.

And that was despite raising their fees this year.

Juventus, also out of Europe but with six-times title winning coach Giovanni Trapattoni back in charge in Turin, have sold 31,300 tickets, according to a provisional list.

Bari, Frank Farina's club, had sold just 8,000 tickets until England World Cup midfielder David Platt joined them.

A further 17,000 Bari fans quickly applied for their season tickets.

With three weeks still to go, \$144 million have been paid by fans.

ROMARIO THREAT

BRAZILIAN striker Romario has told Bobby Robson he's not coming back from holiday unless PSV buy some new players.

Romario, like Robson, is desperate to win the European Champions' Cup next season but believes the Dutch Champions need five new players to stand any chance.

Even though he's in the middle of a five-year contract he says: "There's no point my coming back to the same old team."

PSV are one of only three previous winners in next season's European Cup.

Benfica and current holders Red Star Belgrade are the others.

ADIEU, TIGANA

JEAN Tigana, one of the great names of the past decade in French soccer has decided to retire.

"I've had offers from (Third Division) Endoume, (Second Division) Bordeaux and other clubs but I will never play football again," Tigana said.

Tigana, 35, was part of the magical French side who won the European championship in 1984.

He played last season for French champions Marseille but often had to stay on the substitutes' bench.

SHOP LIFT

Malta have sacked their German-born manager **Horst Hesse**.

The reason?

He pleaded in defence of one of his players caught shoplifting in Helsinki before a recent European Championship clash.

The player — so far unnamed — has been banned from the national team.

The world's best still converge to Italian clubs



Parma's Brazilian international goalkeeper Taffarel shows the flag. Parma have the same foreign trio as last season for 1991/92.

THE Italian First Division remains in a class of its own and is still the very best in the world thanks to the quality of imports from all over the world.

Every club again has its full complement of three foreign players this season.

When the "Serie A" kicks on September 1, there will be 13 Brazilians, 10 Germans, 5 Argentinians and Uruguayans, three Belgians, Dutchmen, Swedes and Yugoslavs, two Romanians and one player apiece from Australia, England, Spain, France and Czechoslovakia.

These are the foreign players who will compete in the 1991/92 season and their clubs:

ASCOLI: Cvetkovic (Yugoslavia), Vervoort (Belgium), Bierhoff (Germany).
ATALANTA: Caniggia (Argentina), Stromberg (Sweden), Bianchezzi (Brazil).
BARI: Farina (Australia), Platt (England), Joao Paulo (Brazil).
CAGLIARI: Francescoli (Uruguay), Herrera (Uruguay), Fonseca (Uruguay).
CREMONESE: Dezotti (Argentina), Ruben Pereira (Uruguay), Ruben Da Silva (Uruguay).
FIorentina: Mazinho (Brazil), Dunga (Brazil), Latorre (Argentina).
FOGGIA: Petrescu (Romania), Timofte (Romania), Shalimov (USSR).
GENOA: Skuhravy (Czechoslovakia), Aguilera (Uruguay), Branco (Brazil).
INTER MILAN: Matthaus, Klinsmann, Brehme (all Germany).
JUVENTUS: Kohler (Germany), Reuter (Germany), Julio Cesar (Brazil).
LAZIO: Riedle (Germany), Doll (Germany), Sosa (Uruguay).
AC MILAN: Gullit, van Basten, Rijkaard (all Holland).
NAPOLI: Blanc (France), Alemao (Brazil), Careca (Brazil).
PARMA: Taffarel (Brazil), Grun (Belgium), Brodin (Sweden).
AS ROMA: Voller, (Germany), Hassler (Germany), Aldair (Brazil).
SAMPDORIA: Katanec (Yugoslavia), Silas (Brazil), Cerezo (Brazil).
TORINO: Scifo (Belgium), Martin Vazquez (Spain), Casagrande (Brazil).
VERONA: Stojkovic (Yugoslavia), Radocioiu (Romania), Prytz (Sweden).

Grobbelaar tug-of-war!

LONG-serving Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar is at the centre of a Spanish transfer tug-of-war.

The 33-year-old Zimbabwe international, who is in his testimonial season with the English giants, is reported to be interesting Real Madrid and Real Sociedad, the club managed by former Liverpool favourite John Toshack.

Neither Toshack nor new Liverpool boss Graeme Souness has yet confirmed any transfer talk, but with Souness' former Glasgow Rangers goalkeeper, Chris Woods, now seeking a move, there would appear to be a ready-made replacement available.

The signing of England international Woods would be a UEFA Cup boost for Liverpool, who under UEFA rules will be allowed to field only for foreign players in the European competition next season.



BRUCE GROBBELAAR

Liverpool have lost one of its Republic of Ireland contingent to First Division rival Aston Villa, which signed defender Steve Staunton last weekend.

ELSTRUP REJOINS ODENSE

DANISH club OB Odense completed their re-signing of international striker **Lars Elstrup** when Luton Town accepted their \$550,000 offer.

The fee is half what the English side expected for the 27-year-old they bought from Odense two years ago for \$1.5 million, but Luton manager David Pleat said: "It's better than nothing."

That was what Luton were faced with receiving when Elstrup threatened to retire for six months, go back to work in banking and then resume playing in Denmark as an amateur after Odense had said they could not match \$1.1 million, the ceiling fixed by UEFA.



TV'S IMPOSSIBLE ANGLE

FOR years American television executives have pondered how to fit all their adverts into a continuous action game such as soccer.

One possible solution, tried by ESPN during the 1986 World Cup, was to suddenly condense the picture and frame it with the advertising "message".

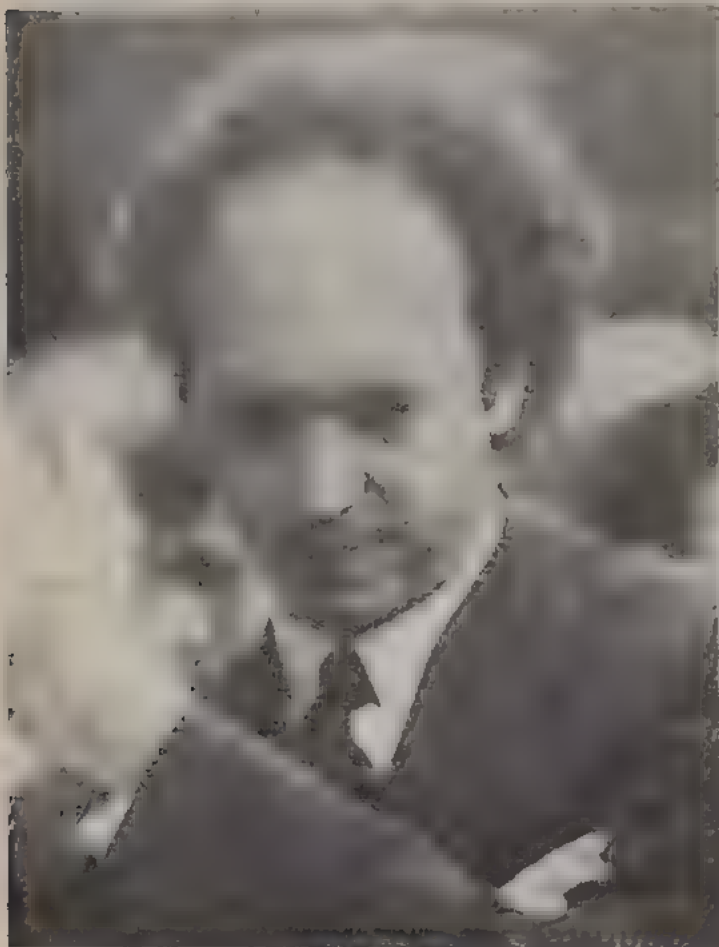
A new favourite has emerged with Italian television.

It's called a "mini-break" — a cutaway to one short, sharp advertising snap when the ball goes out for a throw-in or goal-kick.

The real answer? There isn't one.

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER

- **Dimitar Penev**, the great goalscoring striker of the 1960s, has been appointed Bulgarian national team coach. His almost impossible mission: to overtake Scotland and Switzerland for a berth in the Euro-92 finals next June in Sweden.
- The league match between UBK and KR in Reykjavik last week set an attendance record for the Icelandic First Division. The game in the capital city of Reykjavik attracted 4,021 paying spectators, plus 3,247 "freebies" as children under the age of 16 get in free in Iceland. The crowd represented almost 20 percent of the population population of the capital.
- **French international defender Franck Sauzee** has returned to Marseille after one season in Monaco.
- **Belgian international midfielder Patrick Vervoort** has been transferred from Bordeaux, now in the French Second Division, to newly promoted Italian Serie "A" side Ascoli. Bordeaux have replaced Vervoort with former East German international Rainer Ernst, who played for Bundesliga champions Kaiserslautern last season.
- **South Korea beat Holland 5-4 on penalties** to win the final of the World Student Games soccer tournament and take out the gold medal. The shoot-out was necessary after the teams were still tied at 0-0 after 120 minutes. Interestingly, Holland and Korea were in the same preliminary group as Australia, who drew 2-2 with the Dutch and lost 3-2 to the Koreans. Australia finished in 12th place overall. The bronze medal went to Britain, who beat Uruguay 2-1. Sixteen countries competed.
- In spite of the difficult political and economic situation in the country, Lebanon has been able to keep up its footballing activities in the past few years. Recently the Association in Beirut opened new headquarters, the previous one having been destroyed by the internal conflict in the area. Amongst the guests invited by the Lebanese Football Association to attend the inauguration ceremony of the new Association headquarters was the president of the republic, Elias Hrawi.
- **Massimo della Pergola**, General Secretary of the FIFA Media Committee, has been awarded the "Prix de la Francophonie" (Francophone Prize) in Paris.
- **Lennart Johansson**, a FIFA Vice-president, the UEFA President and hitherto President of the Swedish Association, has been nominated honorary president of the Swedish Football Association.



FALCAO

- **The Brazilian Sports Confederation** will not sack national soccer coach **Falcão** despite a "disappointing" second place in the Copa America. He will remain in charge until the next World Cup.
- **Real Madrid** are interested in German World Cup central defender **Guido Buchwald**. The Spanish club, incidentally, confirmed they would go ahead with signing young Argentine striker **Juan Esnaider** despite his lousy Youth World Cup and his two-year ban from all international football for attempting to hit a referee in Portugal.
- **Iran's Isteghlal Club** won the 10th Asian Cup, beating defending champions **Liaoning Province of China** 2-1 at the Dhaka Stadium in Bangladesh. The winners led 1-0 at half-time when **Hasan Reza Sadeh Barvagh** sent the ball into the Chinese goal 20 minutes after the kickoff.



Between a rock and a hard place

A political battle is brewing between FIFA and the government of Gibraltar, which has accused soccer's international ruling body of "taking a political line" over Gibraltar's application to join FIFA.

At issue is FIFA's decision to refer Gibraltar's application for membership in the Spanish Football Federation, which objects to Gibraltar becoming a member of the organization.

FIFA secretary general **Joseph Blatter** has said this was done "in view of the particular status of the territory of Gibraltar," but angry Gibraltar government officials pointed out that the territory is a British dependency and has been since 1704.

They said they can see no reason why the Spanish should be consulted — although they have no objection to the matter being referred to the English Football Association.

In the past, Spain has attempted to prevent Gibraltar joining international sporting bodies, although seven Gibraltar associations, including hockey, basket-

ball and track and field, are full members of European and worldwide bodies.

Marie Montegriffo, the Gibraltar Minister for Sport, has told FIFA: "There are already a very large number of Gibraltar associations who are full members of the European or international federations, and in all our relations with them there is no question of the involvement of a comparable Spanish sporting organisation."

Soccer has been played in Gibraltar for more than a century, and the Gibraltar Football Association was formed in 1895.

At present, the FA manages 24 teams that compete in the different league and cup competitions.

"Under FIFA rules, there should be no problem for Gibraltar joining," said GFA secretary **Andrew Perera**.

TOP: Czechoslovakian international **Lajos Kubik**, now transferred from Fiorentina to France. BELOW: Norwegian national team captain **Rune Bratseth**, who plays in the Bundesliga.

EUROPEAN FORECAST

BY LOU GAUTIER

WITH the European leagues soon in full swing, now is the time to look into the crystal ball and predict the various winners.

I have only picked winners for the championships that start in the European summer or autumn, and end in the spring.

Countries like the Soviet Union and Sweden, for instance, have not been included.

My capacity for punishment — and for being a fool — come June next year — knowing no bounds, I have also stuck my neck out and selected winners for the three European club competitions, for Euro-92, the Olympics, the Toyota Cup and the Golden Boot award too.

Sheer madness, but lots of fun.

If you want to have a go, why don't you send us your very own tips.

Address them to "Tipping Winners", care Australian and British Soccer Weekly, PO Box 406, Broadway, NSW 2007.

We'll hold on to them until all the winners come home and then we'll see how close you come to the following predictions and to the correct finishing order:

AUSTRIA: FC Tirol
BELGIUM: Anderlecht
BULGARIA: CSKA Sofia
CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Sparta Prague
ENGLAND: Liverpool
FRANCE: Marseille
GERMANY: Bayern Munich
GREECE: Panathinaikos
HOLLAND: PSV Eindhoven
HUNGARY: Ferencvaros
ITALY: AC Milan
POLAND: Gornik Zabrze
PORTUGAL: Benfica
ROMANIA: Steaua Bucharest
SCOTLAND: Celtic
SPAIN: Barcelona
SWITZERLAND: Sion
TURKEY: Fenerbahce
YUGOSLAVIA: Red Star Belgrade
EURO-92: France
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Marseille
EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Manchester United
UEFA CUP: Inter Milan
OLYMPIC GAMES: Czechoslovakia
GOLDEN BOOT AWARD: Jean-Pierre Papin (Top European scorer)
TOYOTA CUP: Colo Colo



1992 OLYMPIC VENUES

BY LOU GALTIER

BESIDES Barcelona, the host city for the 1992 Olympic Games, the Olympic soccer tournament — again expected to attract huge crowds despite age of restrictions imposed by FIFA — will be played in several other Spanish cities too.

The final will be staged at the Nou Camp, capacity 120,000, as well as one semi-final, one quarter-final and group matches.

Other venues are the Luis Casanova Stadium in Valencia, (capacity 49,000), the Stadio de la Romareda in Zaragoza (capacity 44,000), Espanol's Stadium in Barce-



lona (42,000), Estadio de Nova Creu Alta at Sabadell (16,000).

The soccer tournament at the Games actually kicks off one day before the official opening ceremony, on July 23, 1992.

The Olympic tournament for the first time has an age limit: it is restricted to players who will be under 23 years old when the finals kick off in Spain.

Australia have a tough road to hoe to repeat as Olympic finalists as the "Olyroos" will not only have to win their Oceania qualifying group, but will also have to eliminate a top European country to reach the final 16.

At the Seoul Games, Australia reached the quarter-finals after beating Yugoslavia and Nigeria, both 1-0, and losing 3-0 to eventual finalists Brazil.

In the quarter-finals in 1988 it took two penalties and a freekick, scored by superstars Alexei Mikhailichenko and Igor Dobrovolsky, for the Soviet Union, who went on to win the goal medal, to defeat Frank Arok's Aussies 3-0.

GABON GORE

TWO people were killed after fans rampaged through a stadium when Zaire eliminated Gabon from the African Nations' Cup finals.

Spectators from among the stadium crowd of 40,000 set cars on fire in Gabon's capital, Libreville, and a police station was ransacked.

Fires also were set in Omar Bongo Stadium and police fired tear gas.

Reporters saw truckloads of paratroopers in the city.

An unknown number of people were hurt.

Jeanne Ebori Hospital reported wounded people still arriving many hours after the match ended in 0-0 draw that kept Gabon out of the finals of the prestigious African competition.

Gabonese attacked about 100 Zaireans who had come to watch their team play, injuring many of them.

A police captain fired a warning shot into the air, and someone — believed to be among the fans — shot him dead with a pistol.

Other policemen were injured.

Outside the stadium, youths stoned a vehicle driven by a policewoman.

She drove into them, killing one young man and seriously injuring two.

HEYSEL CLOSED

THE Heyssel Stadium has been closed ... for good.

The scene of the 1985 European Cup Final tragedy has been officially shut down by Belgian authorities who have decided vital redevelopment work would be too expensive.

Now the stadium will be demolished.

The last match played there was the Belgian Cup final, in which Brugge beat Mechelen 3-1, with Frank Farina scoring.



US midfielder Paul Caligiuri: his US national team continued on its winning ways with a 2-0 win over Sheffield Wednesday last week.

Another Soviet joins Benfica

SOVIET national team captain Vasily Kulikov has agreed to join Portuguese champions Benfica from Spartak Moscow.

Benfica director Gaspar Romos said the 25-year-old defender would sign a three-year contract with the club this week.

He joins compatriot Sergei Yuran, 22, a striker from Dynamo Kiev, who signed a similar contract at Benfica last week.

The two, whose transfer fees have not



VASILY KULKOV, been disclosed, are the first Soviets to play in Portuguese soccer.

Top referee passes away

ISTVAN Zsolt, a Hungarian international referee for many years, died in Budapest one month before his 70th birthday.

Before his retirement in 1971, Zsolt had refereed at three World Cups (in 1954, 1958 and 1966) and four Olympic Games (1952, 1960, 1964, 1968) — an achievement unmatched by any other FIFA referee.

In 1965, Istvan Zsolt was awarded the Fair Play Prize by UNESCO.

Zsolt was employed for 40 years at the Hungarian National Theatre.

EUROPEAN AGREEMENT

EUROPEAN soccer's governing body, UEFA, has reached an agreement with the European Community that would allow five foreigners in each team instead of the current limit of three.



The compromise, which officials said would take effect on January 1, 1992, falls short of the European Community's goal to eliminate employment restrictions within the 12-nation trade bloc.

"Both sides have conceded sufficiently," said UEFA vice-president David Hill.

"I don't think either side wants to see soccer turned on its head."

UEFA has resisted increasing the limit in an attempt to prevent clubs from losing their national character.

In addition, there are fears there would be an increased migration to the Italian First Division, the most competitive and highly paid soccer league in the world.

Under the agreement, two of the five foreigners on each club would have to have been with the team for five seasons or more.

Star Icelandic goalkeeper Gottskalsson, who plays for KR Reykjavik. The best goalie ever produced by Iceland has been targeted by German and Dutch clubs.

SOUTH AFRICA'S BRITISH COACH

SOUTH Africa, getting ready to return to international competition, have appointed Briton Geoff Butler manager of their national team.



South African star Mark Maponyane celebrates a win by top local side Kaizer Chiefs.

Butler, 50, currently manages top-of-the-league Iwisa Kaizer Chiefs, based in Soweto township outside Johannesburg.

A former player for English league club Notts County, Butler has previously coached in Zambia, Egypt, Kenya and Cyprus.

He came to work in South Africa in 1989.

Soccer, by far the

most popular sport in South Africa, has been racially integrated on the field for several years.

FIFA expelled South Africa 15 years ago because of apartheid, but the republic has reapplied for admission to FIFA and the Confederation of African Football (CAF) in the light of the recent mild reforms.



EDITED BY TOM ANDERSON

THE FAMOUS FIVE



ABERDEEN

Theo Snelders is hoping that Top Cat can help turn Aberdeen into Top Dogs.

The Pittodrie star is putting Scottish football on red alert by warning that the jilted Dons have set their sights on becoming No.1 this season.

And the 27-year-old 'keeper believes the signing of his Dutch pal Theo Ten Caat can help Aberdeen become the undisputed leaders of the pack.

The £300,000 summer buy from Groningen should, in Snelders' opinion, boost the Dons' title challenge and ensure there are no more championship letdowns like last season when they lost out to Rangers on the final day.

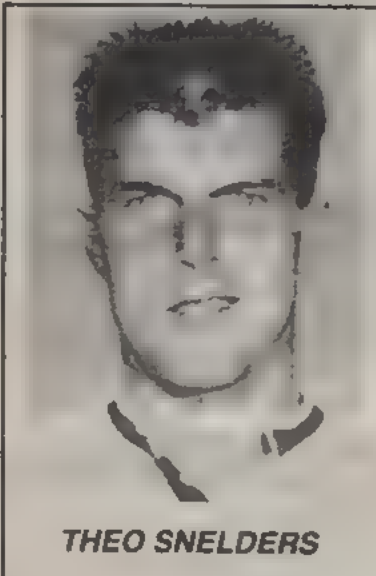
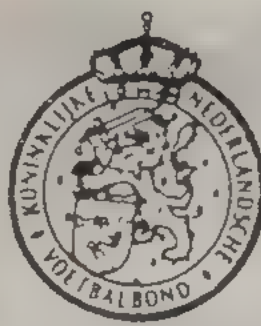
Snelders says of the new midfielder: "I played with him for three years at Twente Enschede and he's an excellent player."

"Players from Holland are good all-rounders and Theo is one of those. He has great passing ability and that is a must in Scottish football. He's also powerful and does a lot of good running."

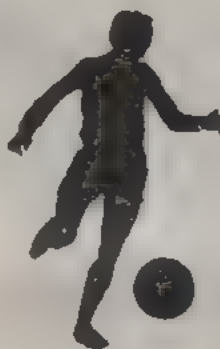
"He should link up well with guys like Jim Bett and Brian Grant



WILLEM VAN DER ARK



THEO SNELDERS



But although Snelders has tasted success since moving to Scotland by helping Aberdeen win the Scottish Cup and Skol Cup he badly wants to land the big one — the Premier League title.

"I really hope we can do it this season," says the 27-year-old 'keeper. "In the three years I've been here, we've finished second every time."

"We are capable of winning the championship but I don't know how the change to 44 League games will affect us."

"The main problems are that it will give us more games against teams who are rated below Aberdeen and those are the sides we never seem to do well against. We can beat Rangers and Celtic but often struggle against the lesser teams."

"The other difficulty could be that we pick up more injuries and have less time to recover from them."

And Snelders knows all about injury problems after being out for two lengthy spells last season.

Firstly, he fractured his cheekbone against Rangers and then in the run-in to the championship he dislocated a shoulder.

He says: "It's never good being injured but when you are in a challenging position like we were, it's even harder."

"But that's all over now. We have had a good pre-season build-up and now we are ready to win the championship."

"Theo will get the benefit from having other Dutchmen around him," says Snelders, "and that will help him settle quickly. It will also help Aberdeen who should get the best from the player much quicker than if he was taking the usual amount of time to adapt to a new country."

"When I first came here I had to a lot of it by myself but he has people around to help him."

"The biggest difference he'll find is the pressure. Theo played for Groningen who finished third last season but you never read about them because the papers are only interested in PSV and Ajax."

"But when you play for Aberdeen you are expected to be successful and the club's name is constantly in the papers. But that can help a player with international ambitions — it certainly did me. I only got into the Dutch team after moving to

Pittodrie and I'm sure that is partly down to playing for a big team."



PETER VAN DEN VEN

and hopefully he can give us an edge in the midfield zone which is so important."

Ten Caat is the latest recruit to the Dutch colony at Aberdeen, becoming the FIFTH signing by boss Alex Smith. Snelders himself blazed the trail three years ago and has been followed by Willem Van der Ark, Peter Van den Ven and striker Hans Gillhaus.

And the Dutch international 'keeper believes that the added influence from Holland will be good for both Ten Caat and Aberdeen.



THEO TEN CAAT

I BOOZED MY WAY OUT OF RANGERS

I had a golden opportunity at Ibrox and threw it away. I played against Hibs with a terrible hang-over. It turned out to be my last game for Rangers

IAN McCALL today admits: I drank myself out of Glasgow Rangers.

When he should have been resting up for big games, he was out on the town.

And when he should have been fit for action on a Saturday morning, he was nursing a terrible hangover.

McCall's frank admission comes in the week when Coventry stars Kenny Sansom, Lloyd McGrath and Trevor Peake were slapped on the transfer list after being sent home in shame for boozing on the club's pre-season tour of Scotland.

McCall, now rebuilding his career at Scottish Premier Division side Dunfermline, says:

"I had a golden opportunity at Ibrox and threw it away. I didn't conduct myself in a professional manner and paid the price. "Players were barred from going out on the Thursday and Friday nights before games, which isn't a harsh order."

"But I regularly broke it on a Thursday — and the occasional Friday as well."

"I played against Hibs in October '89 with a terrible hang-over. It turned out to be the last game I played for Rangers."

"The worst of it is that I believe I'd still be at Ibrox if Walter Smith had become manager earlier."

"Graeme Souness and I didn't get on. I presume he thought I had ability, but was wasting it. And he

was right." Souness, now in charge at Liverpool after five seasons at Ibrox, made his point by putting the 26-year-old midfielder on the transfer list. But still McCall didn't curb his behaviour.

And when he missed training after the reserve team Christmas party, Souness's patience finally snapped.

McCall and Derek Ferguson were both banned from Ibrox for a fortnight and fined two weeks' wages.

It's taken a serious illness to curb McCall's drinking.

He was laid low by hepatitis last Christmas. And he was immediately told to cut out the beer — or risk permanent liver damage.

"I was my own worst enemy," he admits.

"I liked the occasional beer after a game and in midweek. But the hepatitis changed all that."

"I kept being sick, felt weak all the time and lost 1½ stone."

"Doctors told me to cut out alcohol and I've taken the warnings to heart."

"After recovering, I weighted 11st 6lb and felt the fittest I've ever done."

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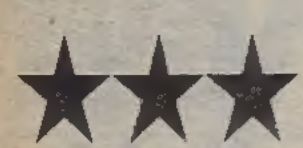
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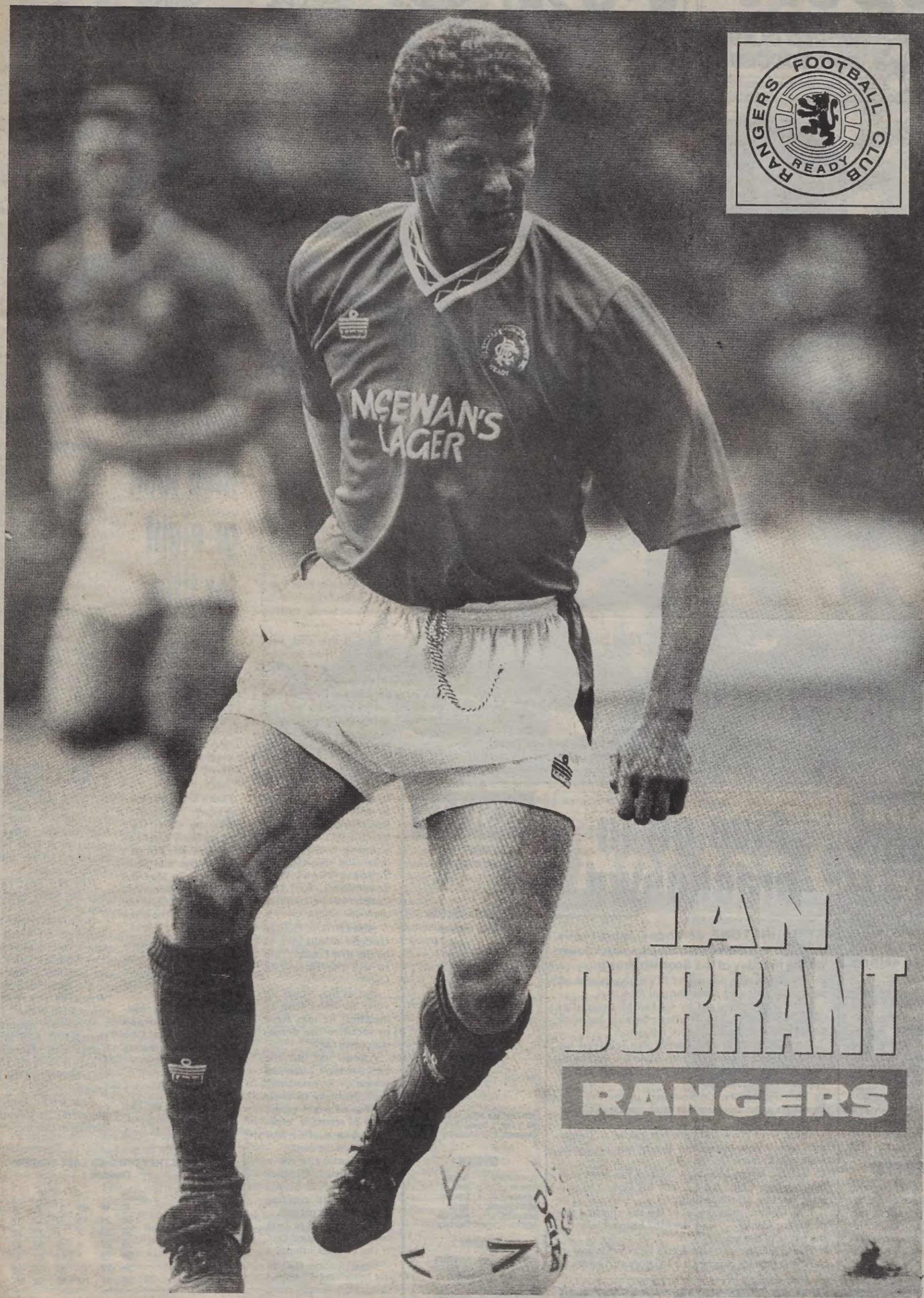
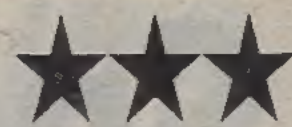
KICK OFF THE SEASON 91/92

Rothmans Football Yearbook 1991/92	\$40.00
Barclays League Club Directory 1992	\$37.50
Football League Yearbook 1992	\$35.00
Football Association Yearbook 1991/92	\$16.99
Playfair Football Annual 1991/92	\$12.99
Playfair Football Non League Annual 91/92	\$14.99
F.A. Vauxhall Non League Club Directory 1992	\$37.50
Guinness Soccer Who's Who 5th Ed. 1992	\$19.95
Supporters Guide to Football League Clubs 1992	\$16.00

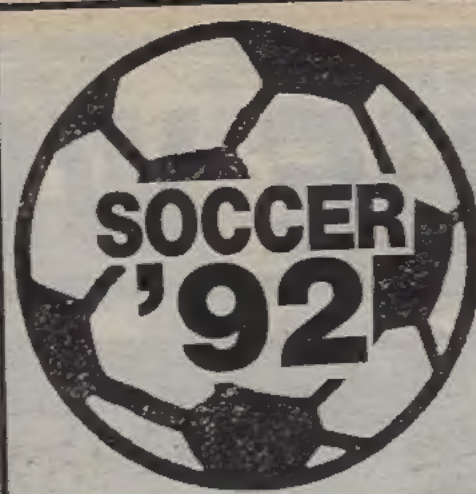
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STAR OF THE WEEK



**IAN
DURRANT**
RANGERS



ARSENAL
— 7-4 favourite



LIVERPOOL
— 7-4 favourite



MAN. UNITED
— 8-1 best bet



LEEDS UTD
— 12-1 nearly men



Tony Dorigo

AT LAST UNITED!

YOU'VE got to back Manchester United to win their first League championship for 25 years — especially at the 8-1 odds the bookmakers are offering.

William Hill make Arsenal and Liverpool joint favourites at 7-4. Frankly, while it's a safe bet both will finish in the top four, it's not worth backing either club at such an ungenerous price.

You'll certainly get a better run for your money on third favourites United — especially as I believe they finally have a genuine chance of landing the title that's eluded them for a quarter of a century.

But get in now! I reckon those odds will be rapidly reduced if Alex Ferguson's costly collection of stars get off to a flying start.

They include new signing Pete Schmeichel, who could turn out to be that rare soccer bird — a great Danish goalkeeper. I've never seen one!

Ferguson's other summer recruit, Eng-

land defender Paul Parker, will certainly add pace and poise to the side.

But in the end, the decisive title factor could be how long the three leading contenders last in Europe.

That's why those writing off Liverpool's League prospects could be making a big mistake.

Because of the UEFA rule, which restricts a 16-man squad to only four non-English players, Liverpool haven't an earthly of winning a European prize. I'm sure Graeme Souness knows that deep down, and the League will be his priority.

Arsenal boss George Graham would love to be the first London club to win the European Cup.

But as that would involve no fewer than 11 matches, he may have to sacrifice the domestic crown for it.

Arsenal lost just one First Division game last season — a remarkable feat. Nobody in their right mind could expect them to repeat it, especially with another four fixtures on the card.

And even with a strong squad, Graham knows they will need a lot of luck in avoiding injuries to key players.

I find it hard to look beyond the fancied trio. If the bookies offered a collective 10-1 against the remaining 19 clubs I think they'd still clean up.

Fergie's men look gr-eight for title

Ambition

Leeds at 12-1 will have their backers. But just as I warned you a year ago not to waste your money on Villa — who had an even worse time than I gloomily forecast — I feel the same about Leeds this time.

There's no questioning Leeds' ambition.

But the £4m, they have spent on Chelsea's Tony Dorigo, Forest's Steve Hodge and Southampton twins Rod and Ray Wallace seems to have strengthened the squad rather than the team.

I see only match-winner Rod as an obvious improvement on a side which did so well last term.

And manager Howard Wilkinson can hardly rely on Lee Chapman again hitting the target as often.

Striker

Leeds look to me like a 'nearly team' who will always be hard to beat

but short of championship consistency.

Maybe, like Spurs, they will hit the jackpot in a cup competition.

Sheffield Wednesday look the best equipped of the promotion quartet, though Oldham could settle in mid-table once they adjust to the loss of their plastic pitch.

Notts County and West Ham could face a struggle for survival, along with Luton and Norwich.

Sunderland, provided they hold on to their best players like Gary Owens and Marco Gabbiadini, are good enough to climb straight out of the Second Division.

And while I tipped Derby's relegation last season, I expect them to be in the promotion running if Arthur Corrie can find the striker he needs to at least partly make up for the loss of Dean Saunders.

But the best each way bet must be Swindon at 28-1.

Bolton, Orient and Stoke get my Third Division vote, and at least 33-1 Swansea can't suffer as much as last season's European Cup Winners representatives from Wales.

Wrexham acquitted themselves well in two games with Manchester United — and the finished 92nd in the League.

See what I mean about the problems of playing in Europe!

Elton John

ROCK singer Elton John has returned to the board of directors of English Second Division club Watford one year after selling the team.

John had spent millions of dollars to build up the club during the 1970s and 1980s, a period during which the team jumped from the Fourth Division to the First Division.

The singer rejoined the board last week and said he hopes to provide a liaison between the board and players.

FORCED REST

NIGEL Martyn, the Crystal Palace and England goalkeeper, has been told to rest an elbow injury which has kept him out of pre-season games.

Five off in crackdown

ST JOHNSTONE defender John Inglis saw red as referees launched a crackdown on the first day of the Scottish season.

☆ The Saints man was one of FIVE players sent off as officials got tough under the new SFA laws.

Inglis was ordered off by ref Les Mottram after only 20 minutes at Ibrox after elbowing hat-trick hero Mark Hateley in Rangers' 6-0 victory.

Tosh McKinlay, of Hearts, also received his marching orders — along with Malcolm Thomson, of Montrose, Dougie Bell, of Partick, and Stirling Albion's David Shanks.

☆ There were also 26 bookings in the Premier Division on an opening day that, amazingly, also produced 26 goals.

There were goals and bookings galore at Tannadice where new boss Liam Brady saw his Celtic team beat Dundee United 4-3.

☆ Referee Brian McClintock booked five men in a match where Celtic led 3-1 only for United to pull level to set up a thrilling finish.

John Collins' second goal of the day clinched the points for Celtic — and doubled his goal tally for the whole of last season.

Hans Gillhaus was Aberdeen's hero as his goal in the dying seconds clinched a 2-1 victory at Airdrie.

RESULTS

TENNENTS FA CHARITY SHIELD

ARSENAL 0 TOTTENHAM 0
Att: 65,463

B & Q SCOTTISH LGE Premier Division

AIRDRIE 1 ABERDEEN 2
HT: 1-0
Att: 6,000
DUNDEE 3 CELTIC 4
HT: 1-3
Att: 16,534
DUNFRAZLINE 1 HEARTS 2
HT: 0-1
FALKIRK 1 MOTHERWELL 1
HT: 1-0
Att: 6,000
HIBS 4 STIRLING 1
HT: 2-0
Att: 8,000
RANGERS 6 ST JOHNSTONE 0
HT: 2-0
Att: 35,109

SCOTTISH RES PREM: Aberdeen 4, Airdrie 3; Celtic 5, Dundee Utd 3; Hearts 1, Dunfermline 1; St Johnstone 1, Rangers 3.

DIVISION 1

CLYDENBANK 1 DUNDEE 2
FORFAR 2 Ayr 3
KILMARNOCK 0 STIRLING 0
MEADOWBANK 2 RAITH 0
MONTROSE 2 HAMILTON 2
MORTON 2 PARTICK 1

DIVISION 2

ALBION 0 ARBROATH 1
BERWICK 0 STENHOUSEMUR 1
BRECHIN 0 ALLOA 2
CLYDE 1 EASTFIFE 0
COWDENBATH 0 QUEEN OFS 1
QUEEN'S PARK 0 DUMBARTON 3
STRANRAER 3 ESTERLING 6

HOW THEY FINISHED LAST SEASON

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
★ Arsenal	38	24	13	1	14	18	83
Liverpool	38	23	7	8	77	40	76
C Palace	38	20	9	9	50	41	69
Leeds	38	19	7	12	63	47	64
Man City	38	17	11	10	64	53	62
★ Man Utd	38	16	12	10	58	45	55

Arsenal 2pts deducted. Man Utd one.



King John to Celts rescue

DUNDEE UNITED 3
CELTIC 4

SMASH-HIT hero John Collins grabbed both points for new boss Liam Brady with only four minutes remaining, scorching home a left foot strike.

And after this seven-goal thriller, beaming Brady revealed that he had a hand in the mid-field ace conjuring up that golden touch.

Despite the nail-biting second half, Celtic can be delighted with their win at Tannadice — never a happy hunting ground for them.

What a blow it was when Cascarino, the scourge of the United defence, was taken off with a back injury which could keep him out of this week's fixtures.

United — without six regulars but sporting a new German centre-half Joachim Muller from FC Mannheim — battled bravely after trailing 3-1 at the break.

And after Collins' winner, it was only a world-class save by Pat Bonner in injury time from John O'Neil that stopped them equalising again.

Both teams set the pace with great scoring chances in the opening exchanges. But it was Nicholas who headed Celts into the lead after nine minutes with a move from a long throw-in by Anton Rogan.

Cascarino nodded it on and Coyne shrewdly dummied the ball to leave Charlie with a clear header from only three yards.

Seven minutes later, the trio burst into action again with Cascarino pushing the ball through to Nicholas whose flick to Coyne left the former United striker to beat luckless keeper Alan Main easily.

Celtic nearly grabbed a third through Nicholas... but then the tide turned.

United cut the lead with a penalty from Michael O'Neill after Derek Whyte had held Duncan Ferguson's jersey.

The action still raged at both ends, though Celtic suffered when Cascarino had to be taken off after 39 minutes. And matters became overheated.

Collins hit Celtic's third before half-time when Creaney laid on a long kick-out from Bonner to give him the chance of a 25-yarder.

But United bounced back after the interval,

with Finn Mixu Paata-lainen coming on to give them more height up front along with the towering Duncan Ferguson.

It was Michael O'Neill who scored their second with a piercing shot.

Midway through the half, the switch paid off when Ferguson rose for a header at the far post to equalise from a cross put over by the hard working Dave Bowman.

The fat was in the fire with both sides going for the kill but it was Celts who made sure with Collins' late strike.

Again Rogan was the hero, pushing the ball up for Creaney heading on to allow the midfield maestro to rifle it home.

DUNDEE UNITED: Main, Cleland, Malpas, Bowman, Muller, McKinnlay, J O'Neill, M O'Neill, French, Preston, Ferguson.

CELTIC: Bonner, Morris, Rogan, Grant, Whyte, Wdowczyk, Fulton, Coyne, Cascarino, Nicholas, Collins.

HANDY HANS

Last-gasp Dons dump new boys

AIRDRIE 1
ABERDEEN 2

NOBODY is going to get it cosy at Broomfield — take the word of Aberdeen boss Alex Smith for that.

After a nerve-jangling last-minute victory against the Premier new boys, Smith warned: "Other teams coming here had better beware."

He added: "We thought we would get it tough and that's exactly how it worked out. Airdrie had the edge and played well in the first half."

Despite having a point snatched from their grasp in their Premier League comeback, Airdrie boss Alex MacDonald did well to hide his disappointment.

He admitted: "Possibly we lack experience in the Premier League."

"We've got to learn and this first game was a hard lesson. We lost bad goals and that is fatal at this level."

Aberdeen's attack got little change from ex-Hearts pair Walter Kidd and Jim Sandison.

Hans Gillhaus was booked before he scored his late winner. And Eoin Jess was precluded by Scott Booth in the second half.

Lesson

It was a winning move because Booth set up the winner.

The Dons had that bit of luck when they grabbed their equaliser.

A Jim Bett corner skidded off a defender's head, hit Brian Irving on the forehead and flew into the net.

Stewart McKimmie

was fortunate not to be the first Dons players to be sent off in the new season after clashing with Alan Lawrence, both players being cautioned.

Dons' new Dutchman Theo Ten Caat looked distinctly shocked at the passion involved. And he was carried off just before half time.

Fortunately Dons boss Smith reported: "I don't think it is too serious although he must be doubtful for our game against Falkirk on Wednesday."

It didn't work out much better for countryman Theo Sneiders.

The keeper failed in stretch to a header from Sammy Conn. The bar saved him until Alan Lawrence popped up to knock it over the line.

AIRDRIE: McKnight, Kidd, Jack, Sandison, Honour, Cann, Lawrence, Balfour, Stewart, Coyle, Kirkwood. Subs: Smith, Abercrombie.

ABERDEEN: Snelders, Wright, Connor, Grant, Irvine, McKimmie, Van De Ven, Bett, Jess, Ten Caat, Gillhaus. Subs: Winnie, Booth.



HANS
GILHAUS



HATELEY'S HOT STUFF

**RANGERS 6
ST JOHNSTONE 0**
MARK Hateley started the new season exactly as he finished last term — in goal-grabbing mood.

The English striker, whose goals against Aberdeen clinched the title flag unfurled at Ibrox yesterday, helped himself to a hat-trick as sad Saints were hit for six.

Yet the big front-man went to town only after his marker John Inglis was sent off for elbowing him in the face.

That led to the 21st-minute penalty which set Rangers on the goal trail — and from that moment Saints were taken apart.

Saints boss Alex Tottenham was white-faced with rage after defender Inglis's moment of madness and raged: "I'm seething with him."

"He won't get a penalty in wages this week. What he did was absolutely crazy."

"He let down every-

Treble blitz has Saints feeling sick

one at the club. I was so angry I didn't want to see him at half-time. I sent Ray Stewart into the dressing-room to get him out before I went in.

"We knew what Hateley was like, but you have to accept that and get on with the game. You don't punch people in the box."

"It not only cost us a man, it gave away a penalty which gave Rangers a goal start."

"We were doing well and creating chances until the ordering-off. But we had to reshuffle every part of the team after that."

Inglis had already required lengthy treatment following a ninth-minute late tackle by Hateley. But when the

pair next clashed it was the Saint who grinned. He swung an elbow at the Ibrox man as they went for a Trevor Steven free-kick and had to go.

Mo Johnston slotted away the resultant penalty and after that the writing was on the wall for Saints.

A bad-tempered opening half-hour, which also saw Ian Ferguson, Richard Gough and Iain Redford booked, calmed down when Hateley added a second.

He tapped in from close range after good lead-up work from Nigel Spackman and Pieter Huistra.

The second half was almost a procession towards luckless Lindsay

Hamilton in the Saints goal.

First Tommy Turner needlessly handled a Steven cross and under the SFA's new regulations on deliberate handball he was lucky to escape a yellow card.

Johnston once again did his duty from the spot, then Ferguson scored the pick of the bunch as he neatly rounded Sergei Baltacha and slotted the ball into the corner.

Hateley dribbled past Hamilton for the fifth, then nodded in No.6 from Steven's corner.

Rangers boss Walter Smith said with a smile: "I'm delighted Mark got off to a flier after the difficult start he had last season."

BEST: Hateley.
RANGERS: Gorum, Stevens, D Robertson, Gough, Spackman, Nisbet, Steven, Ferguson, Hateley, Johnston, Hulstra.

ST JOHNSTONE: Hamilton, Treanor, Baltacha, Redford, Inglis, Turner, Moore, Davies, Wright, Grant, Curran.

Crabbe the jab boosts Hearts

DUNFERMLINE 1
HEARTS 2



JOE JORDAN

STRIKERS Scott Crabbe and John Robertson grabbed the vital goals as Hearts got off to a winning start at East End Park.

Joe Jordan's men survived a red card for Tosh McKinlay and a late Dunfermline onslaught.

Delighted Jordan said: "To get this result, taking into consideration the circumstances of losing a man, is very pleasing."

New signing Ian Baird, a £350,000 capture from Middlesbrough, showed up well alongside the quicksilver duo of Crabbe and Robertson.

Jordan hopes Baird will give Hearts a new dimension. He explained: "Robertson and Crabbe will benefit from playing alongside him."

"I was happy with the way it went but it will get even better."

The game exploded after four minutes when Crabbe cracked a 20-yard shot past keeper Andy Rhodes.

Dunfermline had a great chance to level in 21 minutes, when Craig Levein fouled Ian McParland inside the area, but Ian McCall hit the bar with his penalty.

Vicious

Then, in 58 minutes, McKinlay was ordered off after a vicious foul on McCall, the second

time in two years that the Hearts man has taken an early bath at this ground.

Hearts went further ahead when Robertson scored from 12 yards after 65 minutes.

But Ray Farningham set up a grandstand finish with a long-range effort in 82 minutes.

BEST: Robertson.
DUNFERMLINE: Rhodes, Wilson, Cunningham, McCathie, Moyes, Irons, Davies, Farningham, McParland, McCall, Kozsma.

HEARTS: Smith, McLaren, McKinlay, Levein, MacKay, McPherson, Crabbe, Ferguson, Baird, Miller, Robertson.

KEEP GOING FOR MORE BIG EURO SOCCER NEWS

FLOPS SHOW NO CHARITY

ARSENAL and Spurs will both hold the Charity Shield for six months each after this goalless bore.

It's now 29 years since a London club won the trophy outright and, quite frankly, neither of these sides deserved to break that duck after a game which fell way below the standard we expect of a showpiece match.

Even allowing for the heat it was a disappointing affair which never fulfilled the early promise.

It was all so predictable. Both these teams know each other so well, and their two League encounters last season, also ended goalless.

Arsenal never lived up to the championship class they showed throughout the last campaign, yet there can be no doubt that they

should have finished winners.

Agility

They dominated the second half. While Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman was virtually a spectator after the interval, his opposite number Erik Thorstvedt was kept busy at the other end and it was mainly due to his agility

that Spurs survived.

Even so, Arsenal almost did the trick with the last attack of the game when their young substitute Andrew Cole smashed a shot which flew into side netting with Thorstvedt at full stretch.

For one glorious moment it looked as if somebody had actually scored. But the "goal

ARSENAL 0 SPURS 0

roar" of the Arsenal fans died in their throats.

Spurs will be happier with the result. We know they are a side of considerable limitation, but they battled their way through the game with the kind of spirit which will have pleased both manager Peter Shreeves on the touchline and supremo Terry Venables.

Only for a brief spell after the interval did tempers look like boiling over and they soon cooled when first Arsenal's David Rocastle and then Spurs defender Pat Van den Hauwe were booked.

I suppose, over the distance the main credit went to the Spurs defenders with skipper Gary Mabbutt rating a special mention.

Spurs forced two corners to Arsenal's one in the opening 45 minutes — but it wasn't until the 35th minute that they created their first genuine chance.

Then Lineker sent Vinny Samways away on the left and his cross was headed goalwards by the lurking Nayim.

It was an anxious moment for Arsenal but



GARY LINEKER

Seaman, who had such a nightmare game when the same two sides met in the FA Cup semi-final, was equal to the occasion with a fine save.

BEST: Mabbutt.

ARSENAL: Seaman, Dixon, Winterburn, Hillier, O'Leary, Adams, Rocastle, Davis, Smith, Merson, Campbell. Subs: Linnihan, Jonsson, Thomas, Cole, Miller.

SPURS: Thorstvedt, Fenwick, Van den Hauwe,



Sedgler, Howells, Mabbutt, Stewart, Nayim, Samways, Lineker, Allen. Subs: Walsh, Berrison, Edinburgh, Hendon, Walker.

WOODS ON THE WAY



RANGERS keeper Chris Woods is on his way to Sheffield Wednesday for £1 million.

The 31-year-old England star has been pushed out of the Premier Division champions' plans since the summer signing of Hibs and Scotland ace Andy Goram.

But new Rangers boss Walter Smith last week insisted Woods had only himself to blame for his

Ibrox problems.

"We knew Chris felt his England chances were being affected by playing in Scotland," said Smith.

"So at the end of last season we had to tell him, 'either sign another contract or we go for Andy Goram'.

"It was explained to him that Goram would only be available at certain times and this was one of them."

And Graeme Souness's successor also said Woods had no right to claim anything was done behind his back.

"He knew all about the situation and both parties were in agreement," added Smith.

Garbage

"It's garbage to suggest that he only learned about Andy Goram's transfer from reading the papers."

Sheffield Wednesday boss Trevor Francis is confident of signing the keeper in time for this Saturday's English League home opener against Aston Villa.

No other English clubs have shown any interest in him but Francis needs top-flight experience to prop up his newly-promoted club.

And that should give Woods the chance he desperately needs to press his claims for the England No.1 spot in time for next month's Wembley friendly against Germany.

Woods has already won 24 international caps but England boss Graham Taylor wants proof of current form.

Taylor has revealed he will field his strongest side for the game that will act as a final test before vital European Championship ties with Turkey and Poland.

THIS WEEK ON SBS

YOUR SOCCER STATION

Saturday, August 17

★ *World Soccer* — 5.30pm

Main match: Argentina v Colombia — the final match of the Copa America in Chile. Only a win will give Argentina their first South American title since 1959.



Sunday, August 18

★ *European Football* — 11.30am

Main match: Marseille v Paris St-Germain — top of the league French action as two teams unbeaten after five rounds clash at the Stade Vélodrome.

Barnes may be key to Walker switch

ENGLAND defender Des Walker is the new £3m target for big summer spenders Liverpool.

But to link the Nottingham Forest star with his England partner Mark Wright, the Kop giants might need to sell John Bar-

nes to Marseille.

It's a move Liverpool boss Graeme Souness would make reluctantly. He says

Barnes is "probably the last person I would want to sell."

But a cash shortage — not surprising after shelling out £4.3m on Wright, Dean Saunders and Mark Walters — has given Liverpool problems.

That's why Peter Beardsley and Steve Staunton had to go and Liverpool are still looking to sell, with Celtic hardening interest in Scots International defender Gary Gillespie.

Also available are foreign imports Jan Molby, Ronny Rosen-

thal and Glenn Hysen, plus Jimmy Carter and David Speedie.

But Souness' policy of going for the best makes Walker — in the final year of his Forest contract — a major attraction.

When Marseille made an early attempt to take Barnes, Liverpool demanded £3m plus Chris Waddle.

Bernard Tapie, Marseille's multi-millionaire chief, said no to that.

Now Liverpool, paying Barnes £8,000-a-week for a one-year contract would want a £4m cash deal if he indicates he does not want a long-term future at Anfield.

ACTION SPECIAL: ABSW — best in the world for soccer